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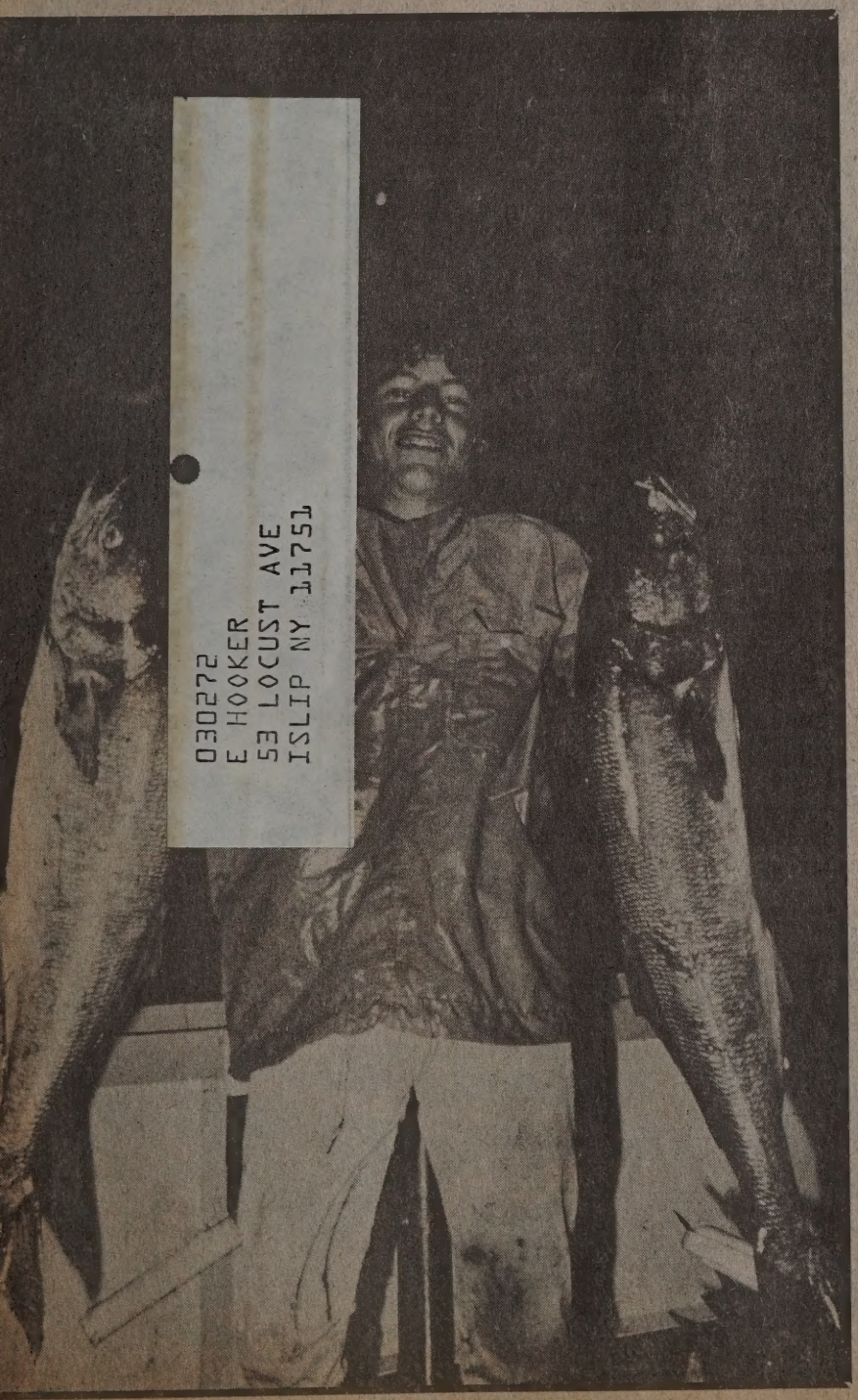
August 19th, 1982 ★ Volume 17, Number 33 ★ 17th Year of Publishing ★ SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS



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The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

Volume 17, Number 33 **August 19th, 1982**

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About the Cover—

Todd Correll, of Belle Terre, hefts a brace of monster blues taken on a nighttime trip to the Cartwright Grounds. For more about this exciting fishery, see Al Ristori's article on page 16. Cover photo by Al Ristori.

COMING NEXT WEEK: **—WOLF PACK— THE CONCLUSION**

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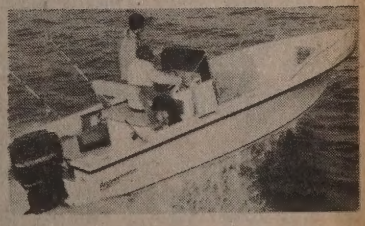

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EDITORIAL

Politicians Say:

"TOUGH LUCK FOR THE STRIPED BASS"

About four years ago, or thereabouts, the State/Federal striped bass project was launched. The purpose of the project was to develop recommendations for the management of striped bass along the East Coast. The project originated because the striped bass stocks from the Chesapeake, the major supplier for the East Coast, were recognized to be in trouble. The philosophy behind the makeup and operation of the project was and is that, if representatives concerned about striped bass were to meet regularly they could come to understand each other's problems, the plight of the striped bass, and reach agreement about workable management strategies.

As of this writing, no one understands why the bass have declined so precipitously through the 1970s and into the 80s. Many suggestions have been made, but there is no real conclusive evidence for any of these theories. To understand why bass were in trouble was and is not crucial to the development of management strategies because initial management efforts should be geared to preserving existing stocks, not overcoming roadblocks to succesful spawning.

It wasn't easy but the representatives from the East Coast states finally hammered out a set of recommendations that could, it was believed, conserve bass stocks and allow enough flexibility to the states so that they could meet and comply with the recommendations while blending these to the unique traditions of the fishermen of their respective states.

Some states have taken dramatic action, when one considers where they are coming from. In fact, it can be safely stated that the states bordering on the Chesapeake (Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina) have made great strides in understanding East Coast striped bass stocks and the importance of conservation; especially now when bass are clearly in severe decline. New York devotees of striped bass might consider recent moves by Virginia and Maryland as trivial, but their public statements that bass need management and legislative increases in minimum size and the closure of spawning reaches of many rivers suggests that these mid-Atlantic commercial fishermen have come a long way. We salute them for their intelligence and sophistication.

But what has become of these recommendations in other states? The answer is, for the most part, that New England states have done nothing! We had a chance in New York, but the management plan introduced last winter as a bill in Albany fizzled through the session. The fizzle came about in spite of the fact that for the first time ever the management plan had the support of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. In fact, the DEC wrote the legislation. Thus, we had DEC in favor, LIF in favor, our own reps to the State/Federal project in favor, most sportsmen's groups in favor. Who then was against it? The commercial fishermen, of course, but not all commercial fishermen. The Hudson River Fisherman's Association did not resist the plan since they, too, have come to recognize that bass need some protection. Many west end Long Island commercial fishermen were also not opposed. Indeed, the big noise came from 31 East Hampton commercial fishermen.

Imagine that! Isn't it comforting to you, as one of millions of voting citizens in New York State, that 31 people could control a piece of legislation that could have positively impacted millions of people, not only in New York State, but along the entire East Coast. This is democracy? Where I come from democracy means majority rule, but that clearly didn't happen in New York State last winter and spring. Let's point out that the provisions of the bill (3/4" size increase—about, and a closed season during winter when only about 5% of the commercially caught bass are taken) were insignificant in terms of how they might affect commercial fishermen on the east end. No, it wasn't the provisions objected to, it was the idea that we were going to manage striped bass. God forbid! To a Bonnacker any form of regulation is tantamount to being anti flag, apple pie, and motherhood.

Our politicians (most of them) showed real political know-how and courage through it all? They folded their tents and crawled under the molding. They let 31 people tell them what to do. Thus, the politicians in Albany effectively said

to the striped bass, "Too bad, we won't help you; that's the way the cookie crumbles," and "better luck next year when there are even fewer bass." When pressed, some politicians said that a good year class of bass would quickly end the uproar and the problem would go away. Wake up people—senators and assemblypersons—this is 1982! As late as the early 1970s a good year class of a species could revitalize that fishery. Today there are simply too many commercial fishermen, too many recreational fishermen and the pressure on all species is too staggering. For striped bass, pollution and a high selling price tend to encourage pressure beyond that for other species. The fact is that all species must be managed and the sooner management plans are put in place and refined the sooner we'll have more stable fisheries and THEN the fish debates will go away! Any belief that a good year class can end the problem is naive and a decade out of date. Get with it politicos and join the management bandwagon. Someday they'll be calling you a visionary and a great leader!

Recently another blow was dealt to the attempt to manage striped bass along the coast. Rhode Island, which had been considering a 24" minimum size (up from the current 16" size limit) seems to have fallen victim to the same gutless syndrome that New York recently experienced. In early June of 1982, there was strong support for the 24" limit at public hearings. The arguments and the turnouts were so good that many believed Rhode Island would soon adopt a 24" limit. Interested fishermen from other states wrote to the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council urging support. The R.I.M.F.C. did an about-face and released the following revisions to the plan. Recreational fishermen would have a 24" limit while trap fishermen and gillnet fishermen would retain the 16" limit. Trap fishermen would also be prohibited from using leads to their net for a five day period in September, even though the main fall harvest is in October.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out what happened. The commercial fishermen "got to" the Council, pressure from politicians came down the pike, and the Council started to shuffle. Once the Council knuckled under they had a new problem, but it was one they could deal with because they only had to deal with "impotent" recreational fishermen. They swished the data around in the big "re-do-it bowl" and what came out was justification that the plan would bring about a 60% overall reduction in the harvest of striped bass. Nonsense! Sure, recreational fishermen would release a helluva lot of small bass, but owing to the movements of bass close to shore and the nature of the commercial fishery, many of those released bass would end up at market!

Now before anyone says, "Hey LIF, how come you're criticizing Rhode Island from a perch in New York?", let me point out that recent scientific evidence suggests strongly that a good portion of the fish harvested in Rhode Island waters are from the Hudson River stock and anyway, since bass migrate up and down the coast, what another state does or doesn't do is definitely our business!

Gutless! Also contemptible—contemptible of recreational fishermen who are obviously considered impotent and unimportant in both New York and Rhode Island. Wake up politicos, the recreational industry in your states is worth far more than the commercial industry. Do you want tens of thousands added to your welfare and unemployment rolls? Well, if you don't you had better give us some attention and fast. Bass are only the tip of this iceberg.

And what might other states who have already acted positively do now that New England has shown its true yellow stripe? Wouldn't you consider undoing what you have done on the grounds that your citizens should not be subjected to hardship if those of other states are not?

Ladies and gentlemen, it is past time to organize. We need angry citizens demanding what's right. We need letters and visits to the offices of politicians. We need angry turnouts at public hearings. We need a saltwater license so that they can't ignore us. Too many of us have been apathetic for too long. This November you must remember what has happened. Find out how your state political representatives voted and acted on matters relating to recreational fishing.

WE MUST REMEMBER WHAT HAS HAPPENED WHEN WE VOTE IN NOVEMBER!

Julia A. Fuller

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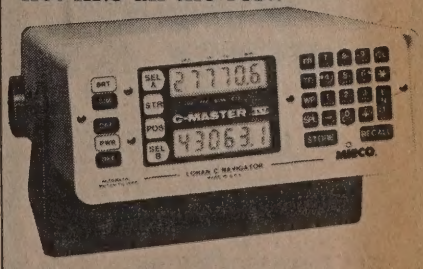

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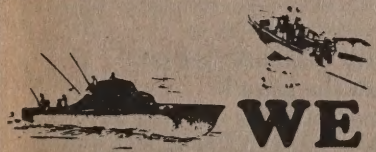

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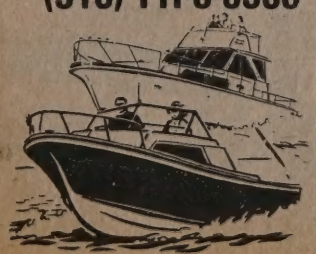

Pass It On...

ATLANTIS ANGLERS COD TRIP A SUCCESS

Zelda Roth, codfishing on the Marlin V out of Montauk, boated a 40 lber. to take the $100 pool during the Atlantic Anglers' annual codfish trip. A fantastic time was had by all..

FLY FISHING EXPERTS SHARE THEIR TIPS IN NEW SCIENTIFIC ANGLERS/ 3M HANDBOOK

Anglers interested in improving fly fishing skills for trout, salmon, steelhead, bass and saltwater fish can find valuable fly fishing and fly tying tips from the experts in the fifth edition of Scientific Anglers' Fly Fishing Handbook.

Designed for the experienced fly fisherman who wants to learn specific stragegies and techniques to enhance his fly fishing enjoyment, this 100-page, all-new publication contains 17 major articles written by many of the nation's best known fly fishermen.

For example, in "No Hatch to Match," master angler Ernie Schwiebert explores popular patterns to use when nothing is on the water. Gary Borger, field editor for **Fly Fisherman** magazine and a University of Wisconsin professor, offers tips on fishing the sulphur Mayfly hatch, while well known writer/photographer Doug Swisher describes innovative still-water angling methods in "Lake Fishing New Tackle and Techniques." Gary LaFontaine shares his system for copying with caddis flies in "Caddis Flies: Problems and Solutions." Montana fly fishing instructor George Anderson takes the mystery out of nymphing techniques for taking large trout, in his article "Four Deadly Nymphing Tricks."

Two articles examine the fly fishing opportunities with small flies: **Rod and Reel** magazine editor John Merwin, in "Methods for Mini Flies," and Tom Wendelburg in "Midges: Tiny Dyanmite for Trout," describe what anglers should know to fish No. 18 and smaller flies.

Bob Stearns helps anglers plan a Florida saltwater fly fishing trip, while Joe Reynolds describes fly fishing techniques for pulling bass out of hard-to-reach places.

The Scientific Anglers Fly Fishing Handbook also includes articles on trout feeding cycles, winter fishing, steelheading. Anglers should check their local fly tackle dealer for the 1982 Fifth Edition of Scientific Anglers Fly Fishing Handbook, or send $3.50 to: Fifth Edition Handbook, Scientific Anglers/3M, Department A, P.O. Box 33984A, St. Paul, MN 55133.

CHUM LINES

SADDENED, BUT THANKFUL

On Wednesday, July 14, Moriches Inlet claimed another boat—mine. My friend and I were drifting for fluke through the inlet toward buoy 29. I have been fishing Moriches Bay for many years and am very familiar with the various quirks of the bay and, of course, the inlet.

This particular day the inlet was relatively flat and my drift was excellent on the incoming tide. My fishing day came to a sudden stop when the captain of a Scarab decided to run out through the inlet at full throttle. I remember watching that pretty boat fly through the inlet and head East, without a member on board looking back to see what their wake did. If they had turned around, they would have noticed my friend and I in my 15 foot runabout trying to survive their wake.

Anyone who has gone down can verify that things happen in a short time, and before I could go far, I had taken on more water than was being bailed and pumpted out. We were on the bottom in the wink of an eye.

I'd like to take this opportunity to publicly thank my fellow fishermen of Moriches Bay. These people were helping immediately, and salvaged my equipment while contacting the Coast Guard.

A thank you goes to the Moriches Coast Guard Station crew, who were right on the spot and made every effort to locate the boat who swamped me, while taking good care of my friend and I. This occurrence is another example of the quality of the Moriches Coast Guard crew and the need for their presence in the area.

A rather large thank you goes to L&M Marine whose help and thoughtfullness enabled me to get my boat back and mentally survive the aftermath.

To the captain of the Scarab who swamped me, thank you for putting an end to my 1982 fishing season with my boat. I hope that your exhibition of speed and power through the inlet brought happiness to your passengers. Unfortunately, your lack of courtesy and carelessness has brought a great deal of sadness to at least one fisherman. Sincerely, *Timothy Mirando, Secretary, Great Gun Anglers.*

PLEA TO TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

The membership of the Baldwin Rod & Gun Club, Inc. would like to make an urgent plea to the organizations and clubs sponsoring the various shark fishing tournaments on Long Island. We would appreciate it if you would publish this in the *Chum Lines*

column.

Every year Long Island fishermen are given the opportunity to participate, either for themselves or for a club (under club sponsorship), in a variety of shark fishing tournaments on Long Island. Some of these tournaments have a long-standing tradition with our sportsmen and offer quite valuable monetary prizes. While there is nothing wrong with sportsmen competing for monetary prizes in a tournament, the disposal of their catch is quite another matter.

Quite often, in fact all too often, the catch is brought in for weigh-in and is then dumped in a hopper and left to rot in the boiling sun. This practice was currently observed by several of our members at the weigh-in station for the Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament on 6-20-82. Numerous blue shark were weighed in, some up to 130 lbs. in weight, the jaws cut out and then dumped. The only shark that was kept was the mako (obviously for its food and monetary value). The ironic part is that the blue shark, as are most species of shark, is edible if dressed properly.

While we recognize that when fishing for shark in a tournament where monetary prizes are involved, a shark is a shark and it goes to the scales. However, if the angler does not want the fish for food we feel that one of the following avenues of catch disposal should be taken:

Release the sharks not wanted; turn the unwanted shark over to a tournament committee for disposal in one of the following manners: a) supply to an orphanage, old folks home, or charity as food; b) sell the catch at the market and turn the money over to an orphanage, old folks home or charity; Have the tournament for specific species of shark with all others tagged and released.

The Freeport Fishing Festival handles the catch of the participating anglers in the manner described in number 2 above. We of the Baldwin Rod & Gun Club commend the Tournament Committee of the Freeport Fishing Festival and feel that all tournaments should follow this same practice.

Since this matter has been brought to the attention of the sport fishing community before on several occasions, isn't it high time that all the clubs got together and DEMANDED the stop to this wasting of our marine resource in the name of sportsmanship and competition? *Joseph C. Pellegrini, Corresponding Sec'y., Baldwin Rod & Gun Club, Inc.*

MAPS NEEDED

I read your magazine weekly and find it highly enjoyable and informative. What I want to get is a map of the east end of Great South Bay. I have a house at Mastic Beach. Frequently there are references in your magazine or the paper to particular areas where to fish, but I don't know where these areas are. I'd like to get a map of my area of the bay with inlets, channels, buoys and other areas labeled so I know where to go and which way to head when I'm in my boat. I launch my boat from buoy 17. A map from around Fire Island Inlet to Shinnecock Inlet would be about just what I need.

I hope you'll be able to tell me where I can purchase such a map and about how much it will cost. Thank you. *Robert Palosco, Maspeth, NY.*

You'll have to check back issues of LIF or wait for future issues. Each year when we run flounder or fluke stories about the Great South Bay, we include detailed maps. When they appear, it is best to hang onto them because in addition to depths and channel markings, our local experts have indicated spots that consistently produce fish. You can also purchase nautical charts from marina and marine supply houses, or contact the Coast Guard. Dr. W.A. Muller.

IS THIS A STURGEON?

I would like to start by saying that The Long Island Fisherman is probably the most helpful and enjoyable magazine I have ever had the pleasure to subscribe to. In fact, reading it during those crowded rush hour commutes to and from work probably helps to maintain my sanity.

Anyway, I have two reasons for writing to you. First, I would like to thank Matt Ahern for his artcile in the

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May 27, 1982 issue titled *Fluke Fishing Basics.* I had promised my son John, who was 8-years-old on May 31, that I would take him fluke fishing on the Capt. Bill out of Point Lookout for his birthday. Matt's article inspired me to do a little homework the night before, and I prepared the tackle as Matt suggested. During the next few days fishing we seemed to be catching more than our share of fluke. Even though most of the fish were throwbacks, little John won the pool with a nice 4 lb. fluke. Since that day, all he talks about is fishing, and that he would like to go surf fishing with me. My wife keeps mumbling something about "now I have two of them to put up with!"

Which brings me to the second subject. One morning while surf fishing in the Sore Thumb area this past June, my son John found the carcasses of two fish which had washed up onto the beach. Naturally, he had many questions, but I had never seen this type of fish before. At first I thought they might have been sturgeon, but I always thought of sturgeon as a freshwater fish. I had been thinking about it on and off since then. You people must have been reading my mind because in this week's issue (7-15-82) Fred Guardineer printed a picture of an Atlantic sturgeon which is exactly what those fish looked like. John and I would like to know more about this fish. Is it good to eat? How can it be caught? Etc. If you're not planning a future article about it, I would appreciate it if you could write me a letter on the subject. *Phil Galletta, Queens Village, NY.*

Yes, Atlantic sturgeon are, at times, rather common to our waters. In fact, in recent years we know of one commercial fisherman who has been fishing for them deliberately. Different types of sturgeon have different characteristics and are valued for their products differently. Yes, you can eat them but, of course, different species of sturgeon made the entire sturgeon family famous because of their roe which becomes very expensive caviar. There really aren't enough Atlantic sturgeon around to make recreational fishing for them worth the effort. However, if the carcasses were decomposed, we don't know that they were sturgeon? Dr. W.A. Muller.

HUDSON RIVER FISH INFO WANTED

I am interested in fishing, and I need some vital information on the types of fish that are found in the Hudson River. Especially the fish that are found near the mouth of the river and upwards to the George Washington Bridge.

I also need information on the river's striped bass population and whatever hatcheries are along the river-front. A speedy reply will be much appreciated. Thank you, *Joseph N. Saliani.*

If I am not mistaken and if my feeble memory holds up for me, I believe I saw a report ten years ago that indicated 250 different species of fish in the Hudson River. Your interest, however, is most game fish and in the lower stretches of the river. The lower reaches of the river into New York Bay produces handsome catches of weaks and blues in the summer and fall. The fishermen there take the fish with diamond jigs near and below the Verrazano Bridge and on bait as well. Best bet is to check local tackle shops for timing of the runs of fish as well as the best techniques of the moment. Also check our LIF fishing reports; and we have and will run articles on fishing in this extreme western area. Striped bass are found in the entire lower stretch of the river and many anglers enjoy fine sport from April through December there. Again, check fishing reports, articles, and local tackle shops for details that will connect you with the particular whims of the fish this year.

On hatcheries: a recent agreement between Con Edison and environmental groups requires the utilities to build and operate striped bass hatcheries on the Hudson to make up for young fish killed by entrainment at cool water intake pipes. Eventually, the hatcheries could produce up to 600 thousand bass per year. Dr. W.A. Muller.

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THREE MAGIC WORDS

by Matt Ahern

There is a lot more to being a good fisherman than just luck. Here, the author expounds on a few of the key ingredients.

Occasionally I write an article which, much to my surprise, draws more than a fair share of comment. The tragic sinking of Sheepshead Bay's MJR III was one, and just recently the story about the day I fished with Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig was another. This one did indeed bring a bundle of mail, to say nothing of comments received from fishermen of personal acquaintance. Such happenings make my day, for I'm always glad to hear from fellow fishermen—even when they rake me over the coals (as they sometimes do).

What I'm getting to is this: some years ago I wrote an article based on three simple words, words which I then believed every fisherman needed to possess to achieve some measure of success. This article also brought favorable comment—in fact, some fellows still write and quote from it. They tell me that not only have they been catching more fish since putting those three recommended words into practice, but that they actually didn't realize good fishing results entailed so much effort.

With today's often lackluster fishing, I think now is the time to repeat that article; therefore, I'll quote from it as we go along, making changes from the original only if the need arises.

I began the article in this manner:

Are there magicians among us? It would seem so.

Not the show-biz types with flowing capes, suave smiles, sleight-of-hand wands and dazzling feminine assistants. But instead I have in mind those "magicians" whose sole claim to fame is the fact that they can pull fish out of the "hat" when least expected. Instead of flowing capes, their outer garments are more likely to be salt-encrusted and salvaged over the protests of outraged wives. Suave smiles are certain to be nonexistent. And most likely the eyes are in a perpetual squint and edged at the corners by deeply-embedded crow's feet—the result of scanning wide expanses of sun-bright waters.

Of course, those sleight-of-hand wands are battle-scarred fishing rods that have endured scores of heart-pounding conflicts with outsized fish and show much evidence that this is so. There are no pretty blonde assistants. Not that these fellows wouldn't appreciate the companionship of such eye-detracting beauty, but the environment needed for these magicians their wonders to perform is hardly the setting for such feminine pulchritude. Our "magicians" are just ordinary garden-variety type sinker bouncers who have learned their wondrous feats the hard way. They may be youngish, or they may be along in years—but it matters not; they are all excellent fishermen.

How, then, did these fellows become piscatory magicians?

For as long as I can remember, these fishermen have intrigued me, and over the years I've attempted to question them whenever it was possible to do so. Most of these fellows, as was their nature, were loners and often taciturn, but on occasion I would meet one who, after a carefully planned warm-up period, would become talkative enough for me to fashion my fishing methods after his. Needless to say, when this was done as prescribed, I would always notice a marked increase in my catch. Problems which plagued me, often seemingly insurmountable at the time, became minor as I discovered the error of my ways.

I found these fellows seldom used exactly the same methods to achieve their coveted reputations. But as time went by, I began to notice a marked similarity in certain areas. A subtle pattern began to take form. When eventually I had compiled all my notes and thoughts on the matter—which incidentally encompassed a period of many, many years—three words began to emerge. All these fellows possessed determination. All admitted that much planning went into every fishing venture. And every single one of them had the patience of Job.

So, from then on, I looked upon those three words: determination, planning, and patience, as having magical qualities. Words which had the power to tranform mediocre anglers into the realm of master fishermen—if they would diligently apply themselves. Today, as then, those words have the power of a piscatory genie.

Let's take the first word: determination, and see what we come up with.

Both of us have to admit that whatever the goal, determination to succeed is a prime requisite of success. For proof, read any famous person's biography and you will quickly discover that without this necessary ingredient, you and I would never have heard of that particular person. Even in our own game, the names of Vlad Evanoff and A.J. McClane are familiar. Do you honestly believe for one minute that these excellent fishermen arrived at this point of prominence without that needed determination to succeed in their chosen craft? Of course not.

One of those many fishermen I questioned confessed to me that all his adult life was spent in the pursuit of striped bass in the surf. Now, as far as the fishing game goes, this way can (and often does) lead to madness. This fellow had caught his share of stripers over the years, but he was **determined** (his word) to beach one over fifty pounds. He finally succeeded; but do you know how long it took before his desire was fulfilled? Forty-one years! But he did it. Now, if this isn't determination, I don't know what is.

Planning is the second word on the list.

By planning I don't mean the simple procedure of selecting a fishing spot for the next weekend. That isn't planning for a successful trip—that's hoping for success. By planning I mean the act of weeding out all the improbables and concentrating on methods to ensure success. Quite a tall order, I admit. But crackerjack fishermen do it all the time.

Ever return to the fishing station with few or no fish, only to discover the fellow ahead of you has filled his bucket to brimming? Shocked, weren't you? And here you were thinking there were no fish around. I certainly hope you didn't shrug your disappointment off by believing that fellow was "lucky."

When these "lucky" fellows go fishing, luck doesn't enter into it. They make their own "luck" by planning ahead—and planning well. They take into consideration what can go wrong and then make sure to the best of their ability that it doesn't. You may be sure these fellows leave nothing to chance. They know their quarry well and are ready at a moment's notice to counter any unexpected whim of the fish. The only thing that beats these boys is Mother Nature and her fickle ways. And then they are quite likely to give her a good run for her money.

Included with planning is study. Planning will avail you naught without intelligent study. Not only

study of the fish and its preferences and feeding habits, but how those fish react to sudden fluctuations in barometric readings. This is one of the most important aspects in planning. And water temperatures—don't ever overlook water temperatures! These control all fish movement and are extremely important for success.

For instance, many sinker bouncers believe that if a spell of warm weather changes to cold overnight the fish will move because the sudden change has caused a drop in water temperature—but this is not entirely so. Water temperatures in so vast an area as the sea are controlled by the earth's tilting to and away from the sun as the seasons change. It is this sluicing back and forth that is important—not overnight changes in air temperature.

If you doubt this, ask yourself why ocean temperatures in our area are warmer in September and early October than they are during the blazing heat of July and August. It is this earth-tilting that causes the influx of cold or warm water, not sudden overnight drops in air temperature. I'm afraid we have confused saltwater angling with our freshwater brethren's game.

This is one example of planning and study needed to come home with the fish. You may be sure such bits of information are not unknown to the expert fisherman; why they coincide with this plans, he puts them to use.

The last word on that list is patience, and I'll say right now that without it, fishermen get nowhere.

You've got to sweat out those fish! You've got to have so much confidence in your ability that you know you will be successful. Just that thought alone often makes the difference between fish and no fish. I believe there are psychological aspects behind this. I can give no other explanation than that.

Of course, knowing that you can anticipate the action is a great help when patience is required. It is easy to see that those two magic words, determination and planning, have a direct bearing on patience. If you are a determined fisherman and have planned well, those fish are going nowhere but in your bucket. If it also takes patience to accomplish that end, it now becomes easier.

I could relate stories by the dozen where the element of patience paid off—especially when codfishing—but there is no need to. By now you know why and how those experts are so successful and there is no need to go any further.

As I said, it took a long time to come up with those three "magic" words, words that have enabled me to put fish in my bucket over the years. They'll work for any dedicated fisherman. Make them work for you!

Now, that was the article as written so long ago. There is nothing in it that cannot be used by today's fisherman. Use those three magic words whenever possible. They never fail!

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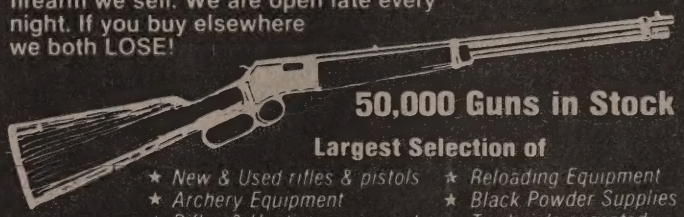

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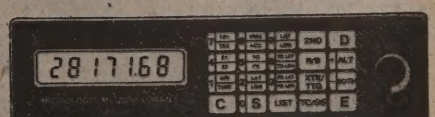

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WOLF PACK

A Short Story in Serial

Part Four—*by William A. Muller*

It was too late! The feeding was out of control, the movements too erratic, and the gillnets growing ominously large. Zip, Zap! Blues flying about at speeds up to 40 miles per hour hit the mesh of the nets so hard that thudding sounds traced patterns through the water. The soft twine colliding with fish radiated muffled thuds. Within minutes, the nets were littered with hundreds of his flock. Okosta watched from a safe distance of ten feet from a net. He saw gill plates spread outward as blues struggled to unsnarl themselves. Still, the more they struggled, the more certainly they were caught. He had failed his flock.

As more and more blues were taken out of the school, chaos waned and caution waxed subtly, spreading through the school the way a poison spreads through the body. Okosta began to move them away from this terrible place—straight out to deep water, not west or east!

The school that numbered over a thousand only minutes ago could now count only a few hundred. The survivors milled about in the water for hours as if mourning the great loss, but with the dawn the school regrouped and contined the start of the migration.

In the second winter the fish languished off the coast of northern Florida and many grew to almost three pounds. Okosta and his cousins belonged to a larger subspecies and they grew more rapidly than blues of other lineages, but of the same year class.

The second migration north the school joined another school of several hundred and they cut across the ocean at the edge of the Gulf Stream instead of hugging the coast as they did the first spring. Again

they did not spawn. The leadership of the combined school was up for grabs, but Okosta did not shy away from the challenge. The memory of his sense of earlier failure faded quickly and he was again very confident. The leader of the second school was named Pomtax and he, too, was confident, agressive, and strong. He, too, was larger than the others. At first, both Okosta and Pomtax swam together ahead of the school, but this was a situation that neither Okosta, Pomtax, nor the school could tolerate indefinitely.

When the school entered New York waters they found herring at the mouth of Jones Inlet and they fed wantonly. Pomtax seized the moment. In the frenzied confusion he attacked Okosta, but Okosta was expecting the assault and turned sharply to avoid the teeth. While the school fed on the herring, the two leaders fought viciously. They chased each other's tail so that a vortex of diminutive size sprung up around them; they charged from distances of several dozen feet at other times trying to ram each other, and each took a turn at sinking below the melee of feeding to charge up under the other for a clean and perhaps fatal bite at the soft under-belly. It was during a charge by Pomtax that Okosta had his chance. Pomtax over-swam his adversary and as he turned, Okosta had already put himself in position for the belly bite. It was a careless error by Pomtax, but one that showed clearly he was not the best leader for the school. None of the other blues realized what had happened, but Okosta's teeth sunk deep into the belly of Pomtax. Okosta flexed his jaw muscles with every ounce of strength, triangular teeth slid off each other and scraping noises squeaked out from the bite site. With almost the speed of flashbulbs popping off at a press conference, Okosta opened and closed his powerful jaw, tearing into the flesh of Pomtax. Okosta could taste the blood from the bite that worked its way through his mouth and over his gills to stream pink and stringy from under the gill covers. Pomtax felt the strength ebbing from him and with one last flourish he died. It was habit for the victor to eat some portion of the vanquished. Then it was over. The entire scenario was so well orchestrated it would seem that both the feeding frenzy and the death battle were over at the same time. Quietly, Okosta moved the school out to deeper water where they rested. The school had an undisputed leader.

Okosta had the instinct to stay away from the estuaries and the shallow water near the beach. Danger was there. The walls of nets, the strange machines that did not look or smell like real bunker or sand eels, but which wiggled like them, and the hulking floating platforms. All these things carried the sense and the smell of death. So Okosta led the school to feed in 100 feet of water south/southeast of Fire Island Inlet, There was plenty to eat there all summer. There was squid, sand eels, sea bass, porgies, ling, and many other things. By late June and early July, there were also mako sharks. The first group of five big makos appeared from deep water while the blues feasted on a large school of squid. The makos circled the blues and Okosta saw them. Quickly he went to work. He swam at top speed around the school and pushed towards the bottom. The makos followed and when the sharks sensed their prey escaping, they attempted strong assauts that all fell far short. The makos had trouble attacking when the blues were near the bottom. They lost the advantage of herding and the great speed of the blues allowed choppers to slither away from the onrushing sharks.

With practice Okosta became extremely good at avoiding the sharks and so the summer passed without great predation.

In their third winter, the fish did not hug the beach in southern migration. They swam at the edge of the Gulf Stream and charged towards the beach now and then when conditions provided good feeding there. They fed for two days along the beaches of the Outer Banks, North Carolina, then off Georgia, and then off northern Florida. In late winter a new urge set upon the school. The bellies of the females grew fat and round and the males began to swell with milt. It was time for a first spawning.

The immense expenditure of energy during spawning was a new experience for Okosta. Even he, a male, swam away with a sunken belly and only one-third of his normal speed. Instinctively, Okosta recognized his vulnerability and reacted by swimming towards shore very close to the bottom. He arrived along the south shore of Long Island in early May. He weighed almost five pounds, but he should have weighed over six. There was very little bait in the water when he arrived and it was difficult to find enough food to fill his stomach during those first few days. He ate crabs by the dozens, a few soft lobsters, several dozen flounder, and a few blackfish. He rarely encountered members from his school because they were staggered along the beach searching for food as he was, but he knew they were there. Then one day he could smell mackerel in the water and the school reacted to the switch that was the smell of the macs. They regrouped within minutes and charged off the beach, found the mackerel and sated themselves.

There was plenty of mackerel and bunker in the next few weeks and the strength of all members of the school returned quickly, they put on needed pounds, and the characteristic strength and aggressiveness of the wolf pack returned. Once a writer noted that when animals on land become too abundant, Nature sends in her killers to clean up the abundance and bring about a more balanced ecosystem. These terrestrial killers are the wolves; relentless in their determination and fierce in their hunting skills. So it is in the seas of the temperate zone. Nature has her wolves of the sea, and they are called bluefish. Even sharks, for all their remarkable reputations, cannot compare in killing ability to bluefish!

The next few years passed in typical bluefish pattern: eat, swim, and eat. Through it all, the fish grew larger and larger. Now they were fish that weighed 15 to 20 pounds. There were few predators that could successfully attack them, their strength per pound of body weight was unequalled, and their abilities as successful hunters had been sharpened by all the years of experience. There had been a lot of attrition to the schools. The first year there were thousands, then hundreds, then about one hundred, and now Okosta's group was only a pod of about twenty-five fish. During migrations, the pods of larger fish often linked together, but they maintained their individual identity. They sought out only the largest of prey now. In the spring and fall, they sought out mackerel—one of their favorite foods. However, during the bulk of the year they fed upon menhaden. True, there were times when they chased sand eels, but they did not do this often, because to do so was not energy efficient. They consumed almost as much energy during the chase to catch the tiny sand eels one by one as was contained as food value in the little fish. Small weakfish, up to several pounds in weight, were easy victims, small bass were a little harder, but not impossible, porgies were a good and easy choice, herring often abounded when the weather was cool, the flounder, fluke, etc., were taken as they became available to say nothing of eels and crabs. Still, most of the time they followed the bunker. The caloric value of bunker is very high because the fish are so oily and when the fish fed on bunker for many days they put on weight quickly.

There were also some problems in "old age." Okosta, for example, had about a half dozen copepods streaming off his flanks. They didn't really bother him or sap his strength, but they were an annoyance. There was also the tendency towards laziness. At night, he and the others were often as cautious in their feeding as wary bass. Still, there were the advantages: the strength, the power, the speed, and the ability to tolerate colder water temperatures. That was a big plus because it allowed the blues to stay north where food was plentiful well into November.

Typical and uneventful would be the best words to describe those years. Then, nothing too good can last for too long and one day the school, distracted by feeding on a school of bunker, was once again haunted by the spectre of a gillnet.

Next Week: Part V (The Conclusion)

THREE TO ONE

by Gerald Hahn

This ratio translates into plenty of action for most fluke anglers.

Fluke fishing today is typified by 3:1 ratios. For every three fluke you catch, only one is a keeper, and for every fluke you release, you land three sundials. Fluke fishing wasn't always so. Only ten years ago you could count on a 20:20 ratio—20 fluke in the 20'' class. Nevertheless, today there are more fluke fishermen than a decade ago and the fact is that they are hooking more fish than ten years ago. An angler I recently met on a party boat told me he threw back 40 short fluke (under 14'') and caught 15 keepers, for a total of 55 fish! He wasn't exaggerating; it has happened to me. Lots of action typifies today's fluke fishing, along with enough keepers, including an occasional doormat, to satisfy everyone.

Most of my fluke fishing is performed along the south shore bays, but occasionally I like to change the pace by fishing for them at Montauk where the waters are especially conducive to landing a doormat over 10 lbs. On one of several trips with some friends, I eased our rental skiff, a 16-footer with a 15 h.p. engine, through the harbor's obstacle course of charter and party boats, and private vessels of every description. By 6:30 in the morning we were out of Montauk Inlet and heading east under a low sun to our destination, a body of water full of reefs and holes between buoy 5 on the north side and the lighthouse at the Point. We had decided to try for weakfish near Jones Reef and Scotts Hole before the sun sent the fish sulking in deep water. After that, we would fish for fluke. Although the ride took only 20 minutes, we arrived too late. Some fishermen in private boats had already caught Montauk's morning bounty of weaks. Unfortunately, one of the major drawbacks to renting a skiff anywhere is that you miss the first light of day, a brief period, especially in the hot summer, when predatory fish are most active. For the fishing station proprietor, this is understandable: he doesn't want his boat wrecked. But I would still gladly give up six hours of fishing in the afternoon for two at dawn. At any rate, anglers in private boats have their problems, too. Those who want to catch elusive summer weaks have to get their lures beneath accompanying blues, which is like trying to pass through a subway turnstile without a token. As it turned out, we would face a similar problem with sundials and fluke.

East ender Uri Berliner with a brace of ''keepers'' from Montauk's north side.

For those unfamiliar with sundials, these fish are the skinniest flatfish around; in fact so thin that their bodies transmit light. For this reason, some anglers prefer to call them ''windowpanes.'' Like fluke, sundials face left; like flounder, they have no teeth. Sundials are rounder and paler than most northeastern flatfish; their fins and beautiful spots are larger, as well. Despite their fragile appearance, sundials are more aggressive than fluke, just as blues are more aggressive than weaks. Sundials will attack almost anything, so long as it's the right size: metal lures, bucktails and all kinds of bait. They love tube teasers, too, as I once discovered while jigging for mackerel. In fact, that day I discovered another 3:1 ratio. The fish voted for the red tube in favor of all other colors by a majority of 3-1. Sundials should write a text on the perfect diet, since they eat ravenously and yet never seem to fatten. For this reason, most fishermen release them although sundials are as tasty as any other flounder. Sundials do not reside exclusively in Montauk. From early spring to late fall, they cover the bottom of Long Island's shallow waters like artificial turf.

Returning to fluke fishing at Montauk, a light fishing outfit, such as a 7' spinning rod and a small matching reel filled with 10 lb. test is perfectly adequate. In contrast to other shallow waters, a nice thing about Montauk's north side is that the fluke are highly responsive to a well-placed lure. One ounce diamond jigs with red split-tails, metal squids, and all-white leadhead bucktails will attract fluke here. All of these lures are particularly effective when sweetened with a strip of squid. Despite my preferences, however, other fishermen, here as elsewhere, prefer single hook or hi-lo rigs with bait for fluke.

A single hook rig is formed by tying an end loop to the end of the fishing line for a 1-3 oz. bank sinker and a dropper loop about 2'' or 3'' above for the hook. Today, short or regular-shank Beaks or Claws are favored, whereas a decade ago long-shank Carlisles were popular. Still in use, however, are three foot leaders of 30 lb. test for snelling the hooks.

A hi-lo rig simply consists of an additional hook tied to a second dropper loop slightly more than a snell's length above the bottom hook. Some fishermen find that a four-foot long, 30 lb. test leader strengthens this rig and reduces tangling problems. A barrel swivel connects the leader to the fishing line, by means of

two improved clinch knots; then the hooks and the sinker are tied to the leader, as before.

Yet another variation is a fishfinder rig which works well on sandy bottom. The rig consists of an egg sinker—the kind with a hole through the center—threaded on the main line, followed by a barrel swivel at the end of the line. The snelled hook is added to the remaining eye of the swivel. When a fluke takes the bait on a fishfinder rig, it does not feel the sliding sinker's resistance until too late.

Montauk fishermen seem to rely primarily on thawed sand eels combined with squid strips although other baits are equally, if not more, effective. Personally, I dislike using sand eels because they disintegrate quickly. Thawed spearing (in short supply these days) holds up better. Best of all, I believe, are live killies or live snappers. The former are sold at many bait shops; the latter must be acquired by the fisherman. Some fishing stations sell killies and provide a floating bait box which is tied to the boat. Killies are generally hooked through the lips and combined with a pennant-shaped strip of squid, about 3'' long by ½'' wide and tapered to a point. The angler looking for live snappers, however, would do well to bring along an ultra-light rod and a tiny metal lure under 1/2 oz. Snappers are abundant throughout Long Island in July and August, and are hooked in the shoulder and served exclusively as a main dish. Yet another kind of bait to consider is a strip bait cut from a small (not a short) fluke, or a flounder, or even a sea robin. In fact, if sundials are prevalent, try cutting one into strips the same way as you prepare squid. Leave the skin on, hook the strip near the wide end, and let the remainder flutter gracefully in the current.

At Montauk, most fishermen drift for fluke. The idea is to select an area of water with fishing potential, head up-current, and then begin the drift. When a fluke is picked up along the way, the distance of subsequent drifts over the same spot is shortened. Generally, drifts at Montauk's north side are westerly and toward shore on the incoming tide, and easterly and offshore on the outgoing tide. Of course, variable winds play havoc with these courses, and adjustments must be made.

That morning at the tip of Montauk, we located most of the fluke near buoy 5 at the beginning of the outgoing tide. Fluke tend to be more active around the change of either tide. Since the fish seemed to be lined up on the sandy bottom near the buoy, we simply headed as close to it as we could and let the boat drift from there. Most of the hits came within 200' of our drifting course. Beyond, all we caught was cherry red seaweed.

A more popular drifting area lies just to the west at Shagwong reef. Inshore, white water crashes over North Bar, a point of land that is usually guarded by a platoon of surf-casters resembling the invasion of Normandy. Beyond the buoy opposite North Bar lies the reef accompanied by rip tides and shoals, and fluke greedily waiting for snacks along the dropoffs. Shagwong is a drifter's heaven.

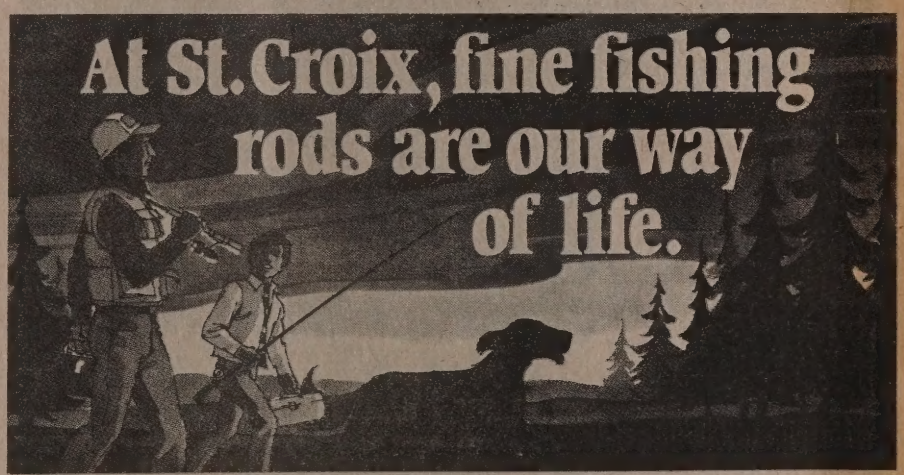
A third fluke producer in this area is at Culloden Point, just west of the inlet. Here, too, a point of land is evident; it forms the northeastern tip of Fort Pond Bay. Drifts are made anywhere between the point and the inlet's west jetty. We fished Culloden in the afternoon, around the change to flood, and caught more fluke. It should be noted that except for Shagwong's outer reef, most of the fishing is performed fairly close to shore in depths ranging from 10' to 30'.

About 50' to 75' of line should be paid out when drifting in shallow water, no matter whether you use bait or lures. Large fluke will strike with a solid jolt and hook themselves when given some room, But these days, the shorts, the smalls, and the barely passable fluke, tend to be finicky. Consequently, the sharp angler resists the temptation to sock the hook home. Indeed, he lowers his rod as if nodding to the fish, and even lets out a few extra feet of line before setting the hook with a short lift of the rod. Short striking fluke are readily attended to this way. Small specimens are easily managed on the rod itself, but large fluke should be netted. Fluke have a nasty habit of flipping in mid-air like pancakes leaving the skillet dry.

Some fishermen prefer to anchor for fluke along the edge of a channel or near a sand bar. A chum pot filled with ground bunker is lowered to the bottom and the baited rig is worked nearby. Fluke, tasting and smelling the chum, swim upcurrent to its source and find the bait. Fishing at anchor for fluke is an effective method, provided you find an isolated spot, a difficult thing at Montauk—and everywhere else—apparently.

It's wise to check the weather before planning a trip to Montauk. Many fishing stations will not let you go out on a rental skiff in rough weather. Montauk's fluke season is about the same as in other places—July through September with more small fluke caught earlier and fewer, though greater numbers of doormats, later.

Although we caught no doormats that day, for me fluke fishing at Montauk was exciting simply because I could fish successfully with lures bounced along its varied bottom contours. Moreover, accustomed though I am to fishing closer to New York, fishing the very end of Long Island presented no unusual problems and provided an extra thrill, like walking along the southern tip of Manhattan. Only a few days before our trip, that record breaking striper was caught nearby. Montauk may be the end of Long Island, but for many anglers, it is really the beginning.



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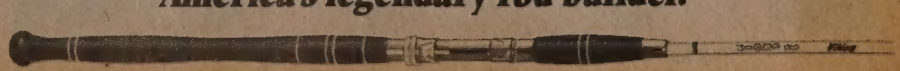

EAST END NIGHTS: *PAINT THEM BLUE*

by Al Ristori

The waters between Montauk and Block Island provide bluefish fans, willing to trade a good night's sleep for some wild action, with a real "ace in the hole."

There are times when it seems as if you just can't get away from the superabundant bluefish—but it isn't always like that! Indeed, there are often stretches during the summer (particularly in August) when the usually willing choppers either disappear from many of their normal haunts or just "turn off." That's when it's nice to have an ace in the hole: night bluefishing from Montauk to Block Island.

There may be more consistent forms of fishing, but I can't think of any offhand that can top night bluefishing south of Block Island and on the Cartwright Grounds. Night after night it's highly productive—and "slaughter" is often a better description. Though some private boats get in on this night fishing, I haven't heard of many big scores. It seems that the lights displayed by the party boats are an important factor in gathering the blues around—or, perhaps, it's just the quantity of bait overboard that draws everything in the area to the party boat. In any case, this is basically a party boat fishery.

Todd Correll works a big night blue to the surface.

In addition to quantity, the other big attraction in the night fishery is the size of the fish. Night blues seem to run only big—and bigger! Early in the season, off Block Island, they're mostly 10 and 12 pounders. However, once the Cartwright run gets into full gear, the average jumps to the 15 lb. class—and 20 pounders aren't uncommon. As a matter of fact, I couldn't name a more likely place on the coast for an angler to break the 20 lb. mark on bluefish.

Having my own boat, I was reluctant to make one of these trips, but finally decided to give it a shot on a rough night last July. It was too rough to fish my small boat that day, and things didn't look much better for the night. My nephew, Todd Correll of Belle Terre, was out at Montauk to fish with me and we didn't want to lose the day completely. Therefore, we climbed aboard the "Viking Starship" at 6:30 p.m., a half-hour before sailing time. The wind was still blowing southwest at 20 knots and there was a forecast of thunderstorms, but we had little to worry about on the 140 ft. "Starship."

Since this was early in the season, we made the longer run to Block Island, rather than fishing Cartwright. The seas were rolling as we arrived south of the Island, and it was none too comfortable—but perfectly fishable. Most of those onboard were tourists, and I was amazed when only one or two of them got seasick. The anchor was dropped over in about 80', though there wasn't anything showing on the graph recorder to indicate that this spot was better than anything else surrounding it. However, the boats rarely get big readings in the evening. They just stop on Loran C numbers that have paid off recently and the blues usually find them.

It didn't take long at all on this trip. I was a little late in getting my herring bait to bottom and other anglers were already hooked up. The technique involved is quite simple. Half a herring is attached to a drail with chain and a single hook. A clip at the chain end of the drail is used to hold the bait straight with the hook in the tail. Most private boatmen use double-hook rigs, but the party boats

prefer the single hooks which make unhooking easier—and accidents less likely. During the day blues are often fussy and won't hit half baits very well until they get "hot." However, there rarely is any hesitation on their part to take either half at night.

Just as with the day fishing, there's nothing more involved in catching these night blues than dropping the rig to bottom and raising it up a few feet. At that point, just hang on! If others are catching and you aren't, try dropping to bottom and starting again. The current may have raised your drail too far off bottom. Conversely, you could be too close to bottom—especially early in the season when bluefish avoid the cold bottom water. Ask anyone whose getting hits how many turns they are off bottom.

I was surprised to find that these bluefish tended to bolt for the surface when hooked. Often it was necessary to reel as fast as I could to keep up with them before they cleared the surface with a head-shaking jump that frequently resulted in a thrown hook. During the day, this same area produced fish for trollers only rather high in the water column. About 250' of wire was all that was required in order to catch the big blues in daylight, and diamond jigging was still poor due to the fact that the fish were so high. Though they did move toward bottom after dark, they must have still been somewhat uncomfortable in the cooler depths. That charge to the surface isn't typical of bluefish, and those caught later in the season will make you fight for every inch.

The action aboard the "Starship" was wild for about an hour, and then settled down to a steady pick for the rest of the night. At that point, it became much more critical to be at exactly the right level. Whereas even the rankest amateurs were hooking up like pros when we first stopped, only those who really worked at it did well as the night wore on. However, just as often, the blues will take hold at night and just keep coming until everyone cries "uncle" and the boat returns early. Though this wasn't one of the better nights, we were back at the dock at 1:10 a.m. (just six hours after we left) with a bag or two of big blues for everyone who put in a fair amount of time at the rail.

The very best of the east end night fishing occurs from mid-August on, when the big blues move in solidly on the Cartwright Grounds. Not only does the run six miles south of the Point save quite a bit of time, but the blues are even bigger and more abundant. The one drawback about Cartwright is that strong tides around the new and full moons often make it difficult to fish when the boats are crowded. That factor might necessitate an occasional trip back to Block Island, but after mid-August Cartwright is generally the most consistent bluefishing area on the coast. Indeed, the fishing is so good and the blues so large that anything I say about it will probably sound like exaggeration. Even when bluefishing to the west is in the summer doldrums, Cartwright produces fantastic fishing night after night.

A mate aboard the "Viking Starship" does the honors for the author's nephew.

While the standard technique involves the use of herring for bait, it's often possible to do just as well with these fish on jigs. Even in July, one of the mates was doing very well when the fishing slowed down by casting a Hopkins (which was allowed to sink near bottom) on spinning tackle. Once the blues really take hold they'll normally hit heavy jigs worked slowly off bottom—just as you'd retrieve for weaks and stripers, rather than the usual fast retrieve for daytime blues. A particularly good choice at night is the luminescent diamond jig produced by Ava. These jigs can be charged by a flashlight or any other handy source of light.

If you'd like to try this super bluefishing, just show up at Montauk before 7PM any night of the week. Both the "Viking Starship" and the "Marlin IV" sail at that time, and Paul Forsberg often adds the "Viking Star" to the night fleet on weekends if the crowds warrant it. Of course, it's better to fish on a weekday night from the standpoint of elbow room—though there's usually plenty of fish for everyone, even on the crowded trips. The "Hel-Cat" makes 5PM Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night trips from Groton, Connecticut, while the "Super Squirrel" and "Julie-C" sail from Point Judith, Rhode Island at 6:30 p.m. every night for Block Island blues.

How long does the night bluefishing last? Just about as long as there are enough customers to make the runs with. Cartwright bluefishing is excellent well into October, and often even in early November. What's more, the blues are bigger still in the fall. Give this exciting night fishery a try this summer or fall and you may never go back to daytime bluefishing!

—EASTCHESTER BAY SURF—

A PIECE OF THE BAY

by John Fritz

The old cliche about "grass being greener on the other side of the fence," is believed by people with many different interests. Probably no group of people adhere to this philosophy more firmly than fishermen, especially when they are having trouble putting fish in the box. When fishing is slow in a certain area, while newspaper columns print glowing reports of fishing in other areas, many anglers begin to feel the urge to travel. One philosophy is to take a break from a particular beach that is not producing and move to an area where information has fish being put on the beach. This practice is by no means foolproof, for in many instances the abandoned beach has broken open as soon as the angler has left for a distant shore.

It is physically impossible to track down all of the hot rumors that crop up throughout the season; therefore, the first consideration should be given to how reliable and how current is the source of information. If it is determined that the reports are worthwhile there is one other factor which should be given some thought and that concerns the knowledge one has of that particular area. It is one thing to rush off to a specific beach if one has a knowledge of the necessary tackle, advantageous weather and tidal conditions, and the physical features of the shore line. On the other hand, if an angler is chasing after fish on beaches with which he is totally unfamiliar, little satisfaction will be gained unless he uses these journeys as a means to gain experience. Time on the beach would be put to better use if it was spent learning everything there is to know about the beaches in one's own backyard before travelling about the Island pursuing rumors of hot fishing.

All this rhetoric is brought about because I have several friends who live near the City line and are frequently driving out to Suffolk County in search of fish when there is excellent fishing in their own neighborhood. It seems that for the past few summers substantial numbers of bluefish and striped bass have found the waters of the western end of Long Island Sound to be to their liking. Even though a large percentage of this shore line is restricted, there is ample open space from which a surfcaster can pursue his sport with an excellent chance of success. One of these prime areas is located in Eastchester Bay a short distance from the toll booths of the Throggs Neck Bridge. It is here that local fishermen, some of whom have little more than a basic knowledge of fishing, frequently make impressive scores on striped bass and monster bluefish. A part of the shore line here is bordered by a concrete bulkhead, the top of which is a wide cement walk. It is from this promenade that a large part of the fishing takes place. The distance from the top of the bulkhead to the base is approximately 4½' and during the latter stages of the ebb tide, the bottom at the foot of the wall is exposed. At low water, many of the bottom features are revealed to provide a good opportunity to newcomers to study the more likely places to fish. On some of the bottom will be found thick patches of vegetation, while most of the sea bed is comprised of rocks and gravel with some areas of mud. Repeatedly along this shore there will be found ridges of larger rocks extending in lines at right angles to the bulkhead, structures similar to small jetties which have been destroyed by the sea. Many anglers prefer to fish the down tide side of these projections for they offer a natural hiding place for waiting for striped bass. Therefore, it would be wise to investigate the area beforehand and make note of the more productive looking areas.

Metropolitan area surfmen are within easy access of some fine summer surf action.

The place in question is the waterfront along the Weir Creek section of Eastchester Bay in the community of Edgewater. Those coming from Long Island should take the first exit after passing through the toll booths of the Throggs Neck, follow the service road for almost half a mile until Main Street is reached, make a right turn into the development and follow the local streets to the waterfront. This turnoff is situated one block before Weir Creek Park, so if the park appears on your right you will know you've gone too far. Parking in this residential area can be a problem, for the streets are very narrow; more like pedestrian walks than city streets. Try to find a likely parking spot as close to the water as possible without blocking the road or someone's driveway. Do not cross through anyone's yard to get to the water; there are ample access points available. After reaching the waterfront promenade, pick out a likely area from which the toll booths at the bridge can be seen. This position will have you facing in an easterly direction and is the area preferred by those fishing this beach regularly.

The major portion of the fishing here is attempted on the outgoing tide which, in this case, means the tidal flow will be left to right. So if the lee side of one of the rock fingers is the place one wishes to place his bait, it should be on the right side of the rocks. Trips are normally planned to coincide with the start of the ebb tide; this can be determined by checking the tidal chart in The Fisherman or the local newspaper and using Willets Point as a reference.

As the tide recedes further, the bottom at the base of the wall will become exposed. At this time anglers, who have been fishing from the top of the bulkhead, will jump down and follow the water's edge as it gradually moves further from the wall.

Since this fishing is usually begun at high water and because the hours of darkness are by the most productive time to fish, an angler new to the area is advised to investigate the beach in the daylight—preferably during the low tide period. Several likely areas should be noted, for if only one or two locations are marked they might be taken on the night you have chosen to make a trip, although from what I have seen, the fishing pressure here is not severe.

Obviously, waders are not needed when fishing from the top of the bulkhead, but when walking the freshly exposed bottom, a pair of short rubber boots is ideal. Aside from rod, reel and general small items of tackle, little specialized equipment is required except for possibly a gaff with a moderate length handle—say, 3' or 4' long. Large fish are not

uncommon and difficulty is encountered when trying to land any decent fish from the top of the wall.

Medium action rods of 8' to 10' in length are sufficient with matching reels similar to the Penn 710 or 550. The tackle need not be too heavy for the terminal gear is nothing more than a 4/0 offset hook embedded in a chunk of bunker. The bait is slung seaward and allowed to settle on the bottom where it lies until found by a passing bass or bluefish. The use of fresh bunker is ideal, but very often this is difficult to acquire and frozen bunker will have to suffice.

Striped bass are the more frequent species taken at this time, but passing schools of large bluefish will often surge through the area providing exciting sport for all. It is therefore advisable to carry a few spare hooks rigged with wire leaders to be used only when it is determined that blues are in the area. Most of the time, it wil be school bass which take the bait, but with an adequate number of 20 lb. bass to make things interesting.

The bottom of Eastchester Bay consists of mud and a great amount of easily disturbed silt; therefore, adverse winds will quickly stir up the sediment and make fishing useless. Eastchester Bay lies in a general north to south direction. When fishing from this shore sunrise will take place in one's face so that winds from the west will have the least effect on the bay's water. Strong east or north winds will cause the most harm, with a south wind being partially blocked by the land mass to the right. When an adverse wind is encountered, it is best to pack it in for the water will turn black, especially towards the bottom of the tide, cancelling any chance of success for that particular trip.

Local anglers working the bulkhead with artificials at high water will frequently take a few fish. Swimming floaters, of the Rebel type, are productive at night with tins, such as the ever-popular 3/4 oz. Hopkins or similar weight Kastmasters and Krocodile lures also effective around the dawn and dusk periods. Those anglers with the good fortune to come upon a school of bluefish harassing a pod of bunker have little need to be selective for just about any lure cast in their midst will induce a strike.

The run of fish in this area, normally through the better part of August, coincides with the sluggish periods on many of the more noted beaches of the Metropolitan Area. Surf fishermen residing nearby should give a thought to trying this shore rather than travelling countless miles and wasting valuable fishing time chasing down rumors of fish. Few beaches in our area can compete, at this stage of the season, with the results achieved by anglers fishing from this wall. The methods used might not be as gratifying as those applied in the high surf, but few anglers with a knowledge of this area will argue the results.

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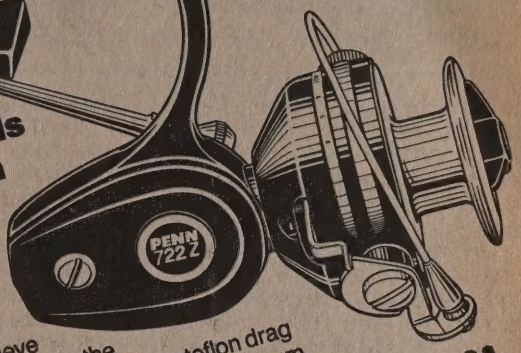

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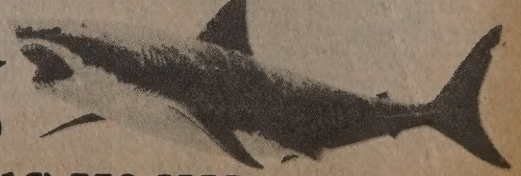

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SNAPPERS IN THE SOUND

by Andy Regina

Long Island Sound plays host to hordes of baby blues during the latter part of summer and scores of anglers come out to greet them.

Every summer, probably since time began and most likely even before that, Long Island Sound is invaded by hordes of ravenous little fish. Actually the current year crop of bluefish fry, these bantam battlers, delight millions of saltwater anglers of all ages and both sexes, with a seemingly endless abundance, an eagerness to accept bait and lure alike, a thrilling battle, and an exquisite taste when cooked. This tiny fish is known as the snapper bluefish to distinguish it from other sizes it achieves as it progresses through its growth cycle. We call 'em, simply, snappers. They grow in stages, from snappers to tailor or "cocktail" bluefish of from 1 to 2 lbs. into what are termed harbor bluefish—fish that go from 2 to about 4 or 5 lbs. Adult bluefish are usually considered to be fish over this 4 or 5 lb. size, and can run up to that 45 lb. bluefish that was netted off Durban, South Africa. These are, nevertheless, all one and the same fish, **Pomatomus saltatrix**, and provide lots of sport and pleasure in any and every size.

A particular favorite among the younger set, many adults can trace their piscatorial roots to the tiny, ubiquitous snapper. Then, a simple cane pole, length of line, hook, and possibly a float or bobber, was all any kid needed, to catch fish. It is just as well, perhaps, that such humble tackle serves this purpose, because simple tackle is better understood and easier mastered by tiny tots. The joy and sense of accomplishment such unsophisticated tackle provides has probably spurred many youngsters into continuing their fishing efforts as they grew up. Usually progressing by leaps and bounds as tyros develop angling skills and master sophisticated equipment, skills in one particular method usually become predominant, leading the mature angler into a lifetime of fishing fun at what is then his favorite outdoor sport.

The way that I learned how to fish for snappers, and also how millions of others both before and after me started out, was with the age-old cane pole. A one-piece bamboo rod, it has a length of line tied to the tip (Irish linen at the time) that was slightly shorter than the length of the bamboo pole. This slightly shorter line length facilitated lifting fish directly out of the water and onto wherever you were fishing from—be it pier, bulkhead, bridge, or boat. We couldn't reel the line in, simply because no reel was employed with this method. Advancing technology saw the Irish linen line give way to braided nylon, then the braid lost out to modern nylon monofilament fishing line. With lines other than mono, a trace of clear leader was tied to the end of the standing line, in deference to the sharp-eyed snapper's inherent line shyness. Back then, the leader was catgut, a stiff abomination that had to be soaked thoroughly before it became supple, but the advent of clear mono lines and leaders has seen the welcomed demise of this catgut.

A special snapper hook was the only one ever used, a long (very, very long) shanked, small hook, called a Bridgeport hook, but known locally simply as a snapper hook. In those dark ages, we thought that hook shanks had to be that long because of the sharp teeth that snappers have. Everyone knows how sharp bluefish teeth are, and that they can bite through everything with them, except metal; snappers are baby bluefish,

Cane poles bristle from among a small group of youngsters intent on snappers at Rye's Playland Fishing Pier.

and they have those same sharp teeth, only smaller. That's why we use wire leader on bluefish hooks, and that's why those silly Bridgeport hook shanks were so foolishly long. Why we ever bothered to use catgut leader is a mystery to me, 'cause if a snapper couldn't spot that long hook in the water, it had to be either blind or stupid. At any rate, we caught a lot of blind, stupid snappers on that type of rig, believe it or not.

The bait used was always spearing. Other areas may have used other baits, such as small killies on the south shore, for instance, but here in the western Sound it was always spearing, and dead spearing at that. If you hung the bait on the hook by the eyes, the snappers always cut the spearing off just below the hook bend. To fool the snappers, we tried hooking the bait by the tail, but still ended up with half a spearing when the snappers got through with it. Smarter anglers hit on the idea of hooking the spearing in the middle of the body, under the dorsal, but those sharpies usually ended up with a headless, tail-less spearing hanging from their hooks. Still others hooked the bait through the eyes, then slipped it up that long shank before burying the hook point into the tail of the spearing. These efforts were more often than not rewarded by a bent spearing draped over the hook in a blob—something no snapper would touch with a ten foot pole.

Talk about ten foot poles! Those cane poles we used were sometimes as long as 16' or 20' in length. The more affluent anglers had collapsible poles that were made in sections, each part fitted with ferrules to hold each successive section. Really rich kids had a rubber butt cap at the end of their cane poles. When the rod was assembled, this cap securely held the hook when traveling, thus preventing accidents. If you didn't have the dime to buy a butt cap, you wrapped a rubber band around the rod butt, and made do. We made do.

There were two other pieces of tackle that were also necessary at that time: a float or bobber, to keep baits at proper feeding levels, and a split-shot or clinch sinker that was attached to the line to bring the bait down to that level, and keep it there. Floats were red and white, painted cork, but any cork swiped off one of dad's wine jigs did the job just as well, provided you made a hole through it for the line to pass through, and used a wooden matchstick to stop the line at the proper depth. By the same token, almost any bolt or nut scrounged off the pier provided the weight that two-cent clinch sinkers afforded.

Bait was obtained on site, by using a homemade box net we fashioned from an old window screen. We scraped mussels off pier pilings, placed them in the net, and crushed 'em with our boot heels, then lowered the net into the water directly below. The net had to be dropped on a slant, so that the mussels would not be forced out of the open end of the net as it descended, then straightened out so that hungry bait could enter easily. After a few minutes, or when we could actually spot enough bait inside the net, it was hauled up rapidly, hand over hand, by a length of stolen clothesline attached to the open end. The force of the water rushing through the wire mesh as the net was hauled up, kept the bait safely trapped inside the pocket of the net.

A youngster gets a helping hand with a bragging size snapper.

So far, everything we have discussed is not news to anyone, except, perhaps, the lucky ones who are too young to recall such crude, ancient techniques. But, even back in those days, we were always alert to new methods, curious to learn any new technque that might possibly improve our skills, thereby also possibly improving our successes, too. Some fishermen, usually weathered old salts, consistently outdid all others, so we watched them like spies, to spot any well-guarded secret that we could steal for our own use. From one old man we learned that small, light, short-shanked hooks resulted in greater strike ratios. Even our limited intelligence made us realize that if you got more bites, you had more chances to catch fish; so we used small hooks. Another old man inadvertently revealed the secret of chumming to us one day, when we saw him casually throw a can of sardines into the water at his feet. What he did not realize was that I had seen him puncture several holes in that can before he tossed it over, which slowly released fish oils and tiny bits of flesh underwater, which, in turn, attracted snappers to that

(Continued on next page.)

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area. Two more veterans accidentally taught us that tiny bits of fresh shrimp and small, live spearing could be more appealing to snappers, especially at those times when they played hard to get. Those tiny, live spearing, rigged on the light, short-shanked hooks we now used, outscored the old dead bait on big hooks every time.

As we grew older, we taught our own kids how to catch snappers, using the baits and techniques we learned as kids, but modern, improved, light spinning tackle that heightened our enjoyment. The new, light tackle, and the fairly new entire concept of spinning was enhanced by light, new fishing line called nylon monofilament, which permitted us to fish baits at any and all levels without relying on floats, bobbers, or sinkers of any sort. Combined with the use of live bait on tiny hooks, the kids fooled more snappers than we ever could, in our day. Even with dead bait, that tiny hook was almost completely hidden in the smallest spearing, something that was impossible to do when we used those hideous, long Bridgeport hooks. This also further increased our successful catch-to-strike ratio, making those kids better fishermen than their old man ever was, which isn't hard to do at any rate.

While teaching the kids, we happily discovered that tiny lures could be used with the new spinning tackle, something that could not be done with the primitive stuff we grew up on. And those tiny lures not only then negated the need for bait of any sort, but for some reason known only to the snappers, actually elicited greater response. If the snappers were deep, a tiny spoon worked wonders, while small Rebel swimming plugs raised hell on top; anything in-between was suitably handled by small, 2½'' Rebel Jointed Minnows. And we're talking about light lures, pal; those tiny Rebel swimmers were 1½'' long and weighed 1/6 oz., and those small Rebel Jointed Minnows weigh but 1/8 oz., and they are our biggies! The rewards were all to our benefit; using those tiny lures on 4 or 6 lb. test mono allowed those spunky little snappers to really show their stuff.

Like their big brothers, caught on tackle that is much heavier by comparison, because of their greater size and weight, our baby blues can strike hard and offer a tough, underwater battle when taken on light and ultralight tackle. These same small fish will often show off too, something they can't do on heavy tackle, and display the bluefish penchant for leaping clear out of the water, shaking their bodies and rattling their tiny gills, like sub-mini-tarpon, as they seek to dislodge the hook. Like I say, they're small, but they're terrific! Try tiny tackle for these tiny battlers, and prove it to yourself. Enjoy it when it happens to you and delight in the thrills that could be yours whenever there are snappers in the Sound!

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

1 THE BULL SHARK, 10 FT. AND 400 LBS... COMES NORTH IN SUMMER AND HAS BEEN KNOWN TO ATTACK SWIMMERS AND SKIN DIVERS. WHAT MAKES IT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SHARKS...AND POSSIBLY MORE DANGEROUS?

ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

BY FRED GUARDINEER

2 TURTLES HAVE NO TEETH...
TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

3 WALLEYES, THE LARGEST MEMBERS OF THE PERCH FAMILY, PREFER TO MOVE AROUND A LAKE LOOKING FOR BAITFISH. THEY ARE TOO ACTIVE TO LIE IN ONE SPOT, WAITING FOR FOOD TO COME BY.
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

4 THE BILL OF A SWORDFISH CAN PIERCE THE PLANKING OF A WOOD FISHING BOAT TO A DEPTH OF...
1 INCH ☐
3 INCHES ☐
6 INCHES ☐
12 INCHES ☐

5 A FAST, STEADY RETRIEVE IS THE MOST COMMON METHOD OF WORKING SURFACE PLUGS DURING THE DAY.
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

6 I CATCH MANY CONGER EELS WHEN OCEAN BOTTOM FISHING. HOW BIG DO THEY GET, A "*FISHERMAN*" READER ASKS US?

1-BULL SHARKS WANDER FROM SALTWATER INTO FRESHWATER AND BACK AGAIN. 2-TRUE. 3-FALSE. 4-3 INCHES. 5-FALSE. A SLOW ERRATIC RETRIEVE IS USUALLY MORE PRODUCTIVE. 6-CONGER EELS, "*CONGER OCEANUS*," HAVE WEIGHED IN AT 22 LBS. ON LONG ISLAND. IN EUROPE THE CLOSELY RELATED "*CONGER CONGER*" HAS BEEN REPORTED CAUGHT UP TO 9 FT. AND 160 POUNDS.

East End Report

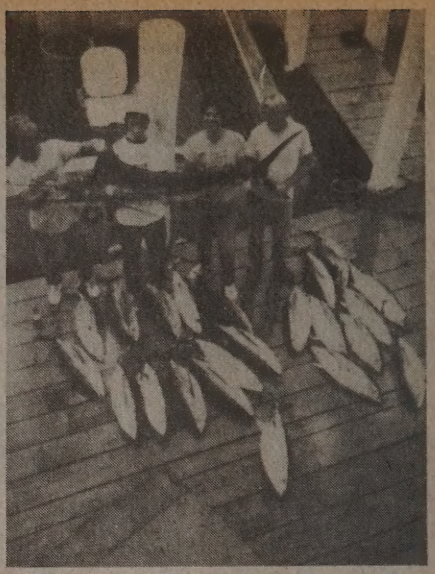
by Stu Miller

MONTAUK

Lots of offshore action seems to be breaking loose now at our Island's eastern tip. Charter boat **Windy** called to say that Sunday's charter totaled 9 albacore from 25-42 lbs. and a 49 lb. yellowfin tuna. Three marlin were on and lost hitting blue Striker lures and Cedar jigs. Action was roughly 23 miles off the Point. A sword was sighted and they tried to bait it, to no avail. Albacore wanted Green machines. Monday's charter had 8 albacore awhile Wed. and Thurs. saw a total of over 700 lbs. of porgies put in the box fishing way to the east.

According to Capt. Jake Nessel of the **Marlin Fleet,** porgy catches were good at Gardiner's with high hooks going 50-60 fish each day. Night blues have been excellent in the 4-10 lb. range on herring at Block Island. The half day fluke trips were described as being super with fish running from 14'' up to 7 lbs., averaging 2-3 lbers. fishing off the Point and at Midway rips. Warren, a regular who is mate on the Helen H out of Sheepshead Bay scored with 61 keeper fluke on two half day trips on Wednesday.

Charlie at **Star Island Yacht Club** happily described the first giant tuna landed so far this season on a boat from his marina, the Sarah Elizabeth captained by Bruce Mc Keige. The giant went 465 lbs. and was taken 20 miles south of Block 'Island. Giants are being seen everywhere but this was the first one baited, hooked and landed. Aboard Peg Leg a 59 lb. white marlin was taken. A 69 lb. white marlin was the reward for efforts aboard the Albatross. Marlin seem to be everywhere. A 227 lb. bigeye tuna was caught on Meditation and a 292 lb. bigeye tuna was taken aboard the Jen-S. The big eyes came from Block Canyon. A total of 18 big eye tuna were weighed in for the week. The fluke are running large and in quantities t the tune of 30-70 per private boat. The rips, areas off Bock Island and Culloden has been producing on the usual baits. Albies and blues are in up the gazoo. A couple of blue marlin were dropped at the canyon this week.



The John Bowers party topped off a fine catch of true albacore with this white marlin. The group fished aboard the charter boat ''Montauk.''

Excellent offshore action advises charter boat **Ebb Tide** with Saturday's body count being 100 mixed blues and weaks at the Sub Buoy on trolled umbrellas. Sunday's trip for Andy Albanese and party totalled 8 blue shark and a small mako.

Captain Charlie Zboray of the charter boat **Free Spirit** had a party out Thursday for a half day trip and scored well on blues from 5-7 lbs. at the Elbow on umbrellas. Saturday's trip for John ''Mad Dog'' McGuire and party totalled 1 brown, 2 blue shark and a 40 lb. tiger which was brought back to be mounted. Sunday's trip for Chip Murray saw a brown shark released several blues caught and released and a small mako dropped at the boat.

Forty-four bluefish to 8 lbs. was the score Saturday aboard the charter boat **Snapshot V** for Lou Esposito and group from Staten Island, fish taken on trolled umbrellas. Captain Henry Harris did the honors.

On Capt. Joe McBride's **My Mate** his parties have been trolling up good catches of bluefish at the Point. Rich Marino and sons had several blue shark and a small mako on one offshore trip this week, with the blue sharks being released.

Aboard charter boat **Darius II,** skipper Art Mundy passed the word that Fri, Sat and Sunday's charters indeed found shark city. Lots of sharks were swarming around the boat all three days and when fares tired of catching them on regular tackle, the switch was made to light tackle. Fishing is being done a long way to the soutsheast for blue and brown shark. A great white estimated at 10-14 ft. in length played around in

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the chum slick but could not be baited. Art said no one could get a bait more than 10 ft. away from the boat without it being picked up by a hungry shark. The skipper asked us to let you know he has weekdays open in September for Cartwright blues. The boat will bait fish and diamond jig only. There will no wire and no umbrellas utilized.

Aboard the charter boat **Adios** Bob Bowman and group Wednesday took 11 longfin albacore and one ywllowfin tuna. They also raised a couple of white marlin. On another trip Mr. and Mrs. Vincente and group had over 70 mixed blues and weaks while Sunday's trip for Eric Van Dormolen group baited an estimated 400 lb. swordfish to no avail. They had it up 3 times when the fish was then spooked by another boat that moved in on them. Six albies and a yellowfin tuna were taken however. This was all on green machines in 45 fathoms of water. The Paul Lang group during the week racked up 3 blue shark.

Aboard Capt Bill Hojohn's charter boat **Honeybun**, plenty of yellowfin tuna, albacore and school bluefin are being taken, though the run is a long one. Sunday's trip for the Yasitinorimon group fished in 45-55 fathoms and had the reels screaming all day with 16 yellow fin tuna and albacore. Blue fin tuna will help fill out the menus of this restaurant group this week. Other charters had good shark action at the dumping grounds. Wednesday's trip saw 7 big blue shark tagged and released.

Aboard the charter boat **Mistress Too**, skipper Fritz Hubner finds the albacore fishing excellent wiht fish getting bigger everyday. They've been running in the 50-63 lb. class with catches averaging 8-14 fish per trip. Sharking is on the upswing with a good number of makos mixed in.

A 68 lb. white marlin, 1 yellowfin and 3 albacore for the Haig Soultanian party. All were caught at Montauk aboard the charter boat "Adios."

Clifford Braverman and friends with part of a big haul of porgies made at Gardiner's Island aboard the six-man open boat "Waxed."

Fishing on Jerry McGrath's **Nostalgia II** Wednesday saw Tony Halpin and sons fish the sub buoy and diamond jig 39 blues, 5 weaks and 4 fluke. Saturday's trip for Joe McGrath Bob Lento, Pat and Bill fished SE light diamond jigging 11 cod to 12 lbs. and a 12 lb. blue. Sunday's offshore trip for Andrew Di Biasi and 2 friends fished SE of the Point roughly 25 miles and found it alive with white marlin, tuna and albacore. A 31 lb. albacore was hooked and landed.

Maureen at **Gone Fishing Marina** told us that Capt. Bill Ricca's charter boat **Alyssa Ann** had good bluefishing SE of the light Saturday taking over 50 blues and a few cod and bonito on jigs. Sunday's charter for Pete Perez and group zapped 62 blues at Block on TriFin jigs with both red and green tubes. Aboard the Bon-e-Len 20 keeper fluke were boated fishing Midway Rips and North Rips on squid and spearing. On Sunday Lenny Harris and crew totaled 11 keepers in just one hour at North Rips, fish to 8 lbs. Weaks and blues are a pretty good item at the sub buoy and Midway.

SOUTH FORK

Aboard the Sag Harbor open boat **Wilhelric II** skipper Artie Lach advises the porgy fishing has been excellent at Plum Island, Crow Shoals and Gardiner's on clam bait. Friday and Sunday were the slowest days with catches averaging 20-25 fish a man. Hazel of Brooklyn had 40 porgies Friday and Thursday Mastic regular Jim Johnson filled his basket with 98 porgies while Saturday saw Pete Bogan, Water Mill take high hook honors with 87 porgies On Monday Pete Kolonowski, Mill Neck burst his burlap with 93 porgies. On the boat's fluke trips, Gardiner's Island has been found to be red hot with a 98 percent keeper ratio, catches averaging 8-20 keepers a man. Jack Gleason and 3 pals of Massapequa Park totalled 75 keepers among them. Pools have been going in the 4-5 lb. class. Wednesday aboard the Greenport charter boat **Nancy Ann** a 9 lb. pool fluke was taken. The fluke is hot right now so if you want to catch quantity and quality, says Artie come on down now and don't be afraid of a lack of space on the boat on the weekend. The boat has been carrying lighter on weekends than on weekdays.

Over at **Noyac Marina** in **Noyac** Helen advises that on Friday Felix Weingart and his 2 sons fishing between buoy 16 and the monastery had 3 weaks up to 10¼ lbs. on squid strips and 30 good porgies. Saturday and Sunday both saw lots of weaks brought in, porgies galore, some blowfish and a kingfish. Helen says the fishing has greatly improved.

On **Shinnecock Canal** the **Capt. Clark II** advises there's been a fair increase in porgy action in Peconic Bay this past week. Weaks in the 2-4 lb. class are also being caught daily. Some days the catches are fair to excellent. Sunday saw 42 weaks boated along with a fair catch of porgies. Eleven year old Jason Fullen of Virginia scored with 12 weaks plus the 3½ pool winner. Due to last week's excellent catches, many fares returned for Saturday's offshore wreck trip for sea bass and blacks. The day's catch was only fair due to exceptionally strong southeast tides. These offshore wreck trips are still scheduled for every Saturday and Sunday. Watch this column and boat ad for additional trips after Labor Day.

Tom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** says the best bet now is snappers and small blues in the canal and bay. Some triggerfish off the canal and jetties. Some fluke in the bay but wiht a good number of shorts. Tuna and marlin in 150 ft. of water with a lot on

Henry Galanio and friends with blues up to 15 lbs. taken at the C.I.A. Grounds aboard the charter boat "Alyssa Ann." Photo courtesy of Gone Fishing Marina in Montauk.

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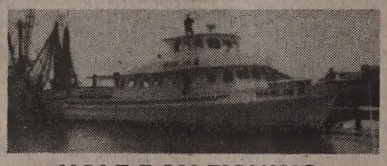

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Bob Valentine and friends with some of the true (longfin) albacore they took on a recent offshore trip aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Mako Express."

and a lot dropped. The Peconics have been producing snappers, small blues and porgies. Same for Sag Harbor waters plus an occasional weakfish. Fluking has been good at the ruins off Gardiner's with large porgies also being caughg.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

Fluke fishing throughout most of the South Shore bays and inlets remained consistent and continued to satisfy most sinker bouncers. Bluefishing, while erratic for the open boat fleet has been good for boatmen trolling umbrella rigs in anywhere from 40-75' of water south of the inlets. Offshore fishing finally appears to be settling down with marlin and tuna found well inshore of the canyons in recent days. One hundred and fifty to 160' of water SE of F.I. is was alive with marlin on Saturday, while to the east, most Shinnecock boats found marlin life in 130-150' of water.

EAST END BAYS & INLETS

An improvement is noted in the fluking inside Shinnecock Inlet by Lanny Molnar of **Molnar's Landing** in **Hampton Bays**. In addition, there are all of the small blues (1-3 pounds) you want just outside the inlet for trollers and casters. Use the smaller #4 tubes on your umbrella rigs for these fish. A few bonito were mixed with the small blues this week. Bigger blues, 12-15 pounds, in 110' of water SSE of the inlet. Lanny knew that one local sharpie took bass of 41 and 44 pounds

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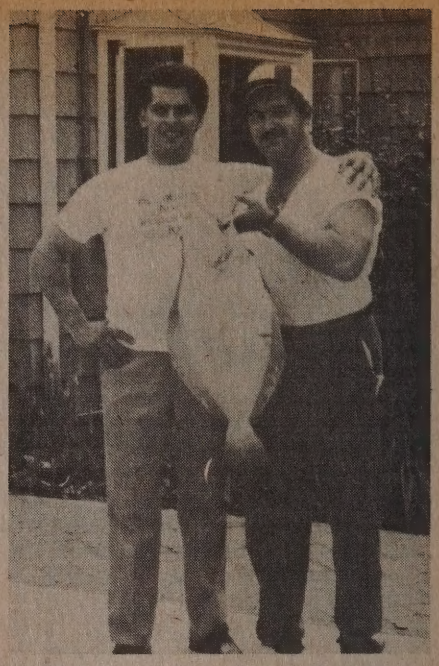

Nicholas Kiouzellis and John Syragakis with a fluke of 11¼ lbs. The big doormat was boated off Mashomack Pt. and weighed at Bayview Marine in Sag Harbor.

in the Inlet over the weekend. On the offshore scene, the Islander returned from the canyon with 1 white marlin and 11 long fin albacore. On Sunday, Ed Schroeder's Jo-Lynn took a 550-plus pound blue marlin at the Fish Tails. The best white marlin action according to Lanny was found in 130-150' of water. The Shinnecock Marlin and Tuna Club's annual Rodeo which includes both inshore and offshore categories slated to go off this weekend.

The best fluking in **Moriches Bay** is apparently on the flats located between Havens Point and the C.G. Station and judging by the results the best scores are being made not with conventional fluke rigs but with yellow or pink Salty Dogs teamed with a strip of squid or fluke belly. Jim DeVita of **Skidmores Fishing Station** told of Hank Kurz who had 14 nice fluke by himself one day during the week. On Saturday, Joe and Jim Sander teamed up to take 28 flatties while Dave Roys had 17 by himself on Sunday. All three catches were the result of Salty Dogs. Jim added that flounder remained good south of 36 and 34 on worms or red dyed clams. Best shot at the fish is at both sides of high water. Crabs now in heavy out in front of the station with rings and the flood tide proving to be the most effective combination.

From **Silly Lilly Fishing Station**, Gary Grunseich also relayed word of good fluking on the flats between Havens Point and the C.G. Station. He recommended 2 hours before and 2 hours after high water with combo baits of sandeels or spearing and squid. Average catches this past week ranged from 10-20 fluke per boat. Flounder fishing remains real good with most of the fish falling into the ¾ to 2 pound range. Work the deep water near buoys 34, 36 or 39. Cy and Ed Wolf had 93 of the winter flatties on Saturday. The largest was a 2 pounder. Very good crabbing and snapper fishing right out in front of the station Tuthill Cove.

Capt. Fred of the **Moriches** charter boat **Sea Mist** labelled the bluefishing as a pretty safe bet. Fish from 3-5 pounds are SW of the inlet in 70' of water while a body of larger blues, mostly 8-10 pounders, are sitting in 100 feet of water SE of the Inlet. Best catches had been on trolled umbrella rigs. The weekend boasted some good marlin and yellowfin tuna action SE of Moriches Inlet in 160-165' of water. Fred knew of at least 4 white marlin brought through Moriches on Saturday.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

The big news in the eastern sector of Great South Bay has been the fine summer run of 1½-2 pound weakfish which are being taken on yellow or pink Salty Dogs or small single hook diamond jigs tipped with worm or squid strips. Small bluefish are scattered throughout the same eastern portion of the bay according to Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**. Lots of snappers and crabs from all the local docks and piers as well.

Vinnie at **South Bay Fishing Station** in **West Sayville** also spoke of a good run of small weaks in the east bay located between W. Sayville and the East Line off of Bayport. Squid strips

fished on hi-low rigs have been accounting for the weaks as well as small bay blues and an occasional kingfish. Best bet for fluke has been in the vicinity of buoy 10 where Vinnie suggested incoming water and spearing and squid combos. Best fluke of the week was a 24 incher taken by 9 year old Ron Trotta, Jr. Crabbing and snapper fishing has been excellent locally.

Fluke fishing remains steady at West Channel, The Lighthouse and at the Inlet where hoards of 1-2 pound blues also prevail according to Rod DiGiacomo of **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale.** Fluking is best on the last half of incoming while action on inlet blues and some 4-7 pound weaks is best on the Ebb. Also a good showing of 1-2 pound weakfish on squid strips off of W. Sayville this past week. As for offshore fishing, lots of white marlin activity reported by customers SE of F.I. Inlet in 150-160' of water on Saturday. Fish were taken on Green Machines and rigged eels with the latter being especially productive. Lest we forget our freshwater fans, 14 year old Michael Cancilla of Patchogue checked in a 2¼ pound rainbow trout which he took last week in the Connetquot.

Mike Cioffi of **Peppy's Bait and Tackle Shop** in **East Islip** told of loads of small blues and some weakfish in F.I. Inlet on 007 jigs or trolled umbrella rigs. Further out in 75' of water South of Gilgo there was a real good shot of blues in the 5-8 pound class for umbrella rig trollers. Fluking remains good in the area with Tom Maclachlan checking in 5 fluke up to 4¼ pounds on Sunday. He fished the lighthouse with killies and squid. Aboard Frank Hoffman's Time and a Half on Sunday, Glen Cavaluzzi, Bob Nochse, bill Dagistino, Carmine Esposito and Jeff Manley put away 2 white marlin and 4 yellowfin tuna to

Vicky Molnar and her 39 lb. striper taken while livelining in Shinnecock Inlet. Photo courtesy of Molnar's Landing in Hampton Bays.

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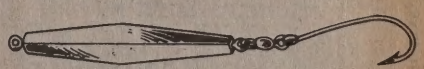

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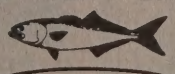

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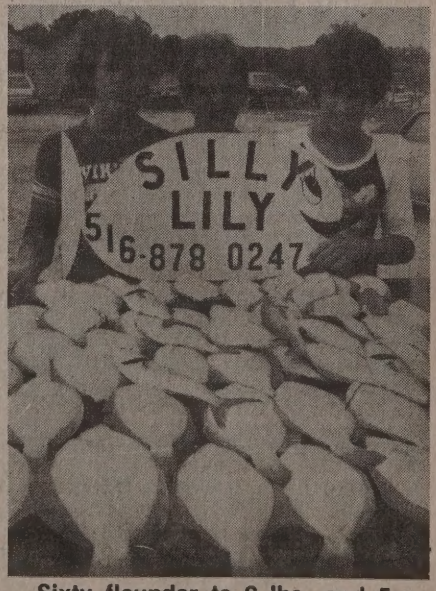

Sixty flounder to 2 lbs. and 5 bay blues taken by Mike and Mitchell Wergiles and Chris Vella in Moriches Bay on July 26 after renting a skiff from Silly Lily Fishing Station.

50 pounds in 180' of water somewhere south of Moriches. Rigged eels accounted for the action.

Aboard the Bay Shore open boat **Casey Lee**, Capt. Neil Delanoy spoke of good fluking near West Island and Sexton Island particularly on the last of the flood and the first of the Ebb using spearing and squid combos. The weekend afternoon trips were especially good with nearly 150 fluke taken on each trip. Hi-hook on Saturday's afternoon trip was Joe Marchese of West Islip with 11 flatties.

Carl Miller of **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** in **Bay Shore** suggested fishing West Channel during incoming water for the best fluke action although he termed the fishing good anywhere from the bridge to the inlet. Killies and squid have been producing some fine catches. Little blues are all over the bay and inlet but there was a quick shot at some huge blues in the bay Sunday evening. Boatmen trolling yellow and red umbrella rigs near the WR buoy east of the bridge tangled with blues between 10 and 13 pounds. Weakfish are still in the cove at Oak Beach. A regular customer by the name of Dennis put away 10 up to 8 pounds Saturday morning on Tiger Tails and Jelly Worms. Sinker Bouncers have been picking away at sea bass, porgies and blow fish in deep water around West Island. One fluke fan had his squid strip intercepted by a 10 pound blackfish at Kismet on Sunday. Locally, snapper fishing and crabbing has been good. The weekend was a memorable one for Carl's 9 year old son Richie who used a light bluefish rod to bag his first shark, a brown estimated at about 75 pounds. He also caught his first noteworthy bluefish on this trip. The chopper checked in at 10 pounds. While much of the marlin action was in 150' of water on out the fish were spotted as close in a 60' this past week by a couple of reliable skippers. Those seeking big eyes had to make the canyon run where 2-4 tuna per boat was not unusual with fish running any where from 100-300 pounds. Lots of bluefish from 45-75 feet of water south of the water tower. Fish range anywhere from 5-12 pounds.

Captree open boat continued to enjoy a good run of fluke in G.S.B. and F.I. Inlet with many nice sized fish predominating although doormats are lacking here as they are everywhere else. Capt. Carl Passaro of the **Jib VI** called the fluking good but the best action has been on the flood tide at the Inlet, Snake Hill Channel or at Yellow Bar. Both killies or spearing have been working on the fish. The skipper is looking for fluking to build to a peak at the end of the month and then carry through well into September as the fish collect in the inlet prior to their offshore migration.

Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** liked the change in the tide at the inlet for the best shot at fluke but also conceded that West Island and

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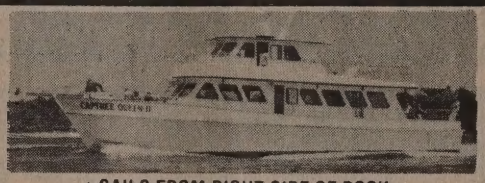

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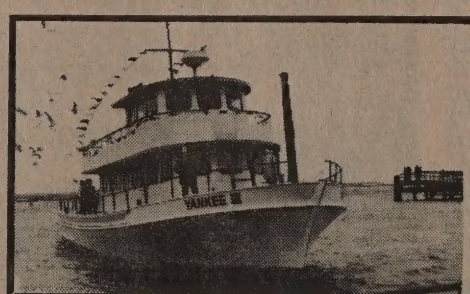

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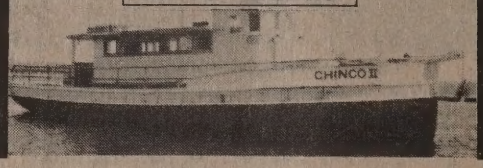

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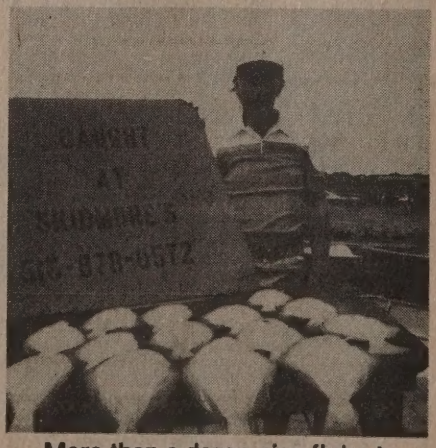
Sexton Island have been producing their fair share of fish as well. Gordon labelled the bluefishing sporadic but in general good, for example, Saturday's fishing was poor but Sunday's fishing produced not much in quantity but real quality fish in the 10-18 pound class at Cholera. Both Thursday and Friday provided real good action with 2-6 pound fish 6-10 miles SW of F.I. Inlet.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy Fleet** called the bluefishing picky with the boats having to search out the fis on most days. The skipper has been running east and west of the inlet in his efforts to nail down a concentration of fish. Both Friday and Saturday nights provided very fast action wit 3-6 pound blues taken just outside the inlet. Nearly approx. 1,000 fish came aboard on Friday and 700 on Saturday. The day trips, however, were slow.

Babylon Captain's Assoc. boats getting in on weekend action included the **Pooka V** which enjoyed good fluking between the Lighthouse and the Bridge on spearing and squid combos. On Saturday, the **Luci II** fished a party headed by Bernie McCabe. A 150 pound mako as well as a dusky of similar size were taken during the course of the day in 150' of water SE of the Inlet. Capt. Jack Stoddard asks that we inform readers that due to a late cancellation he has an open date for this Sunday.

The inlet is loaded with small blues with bigger blues in the 7 pound class out in 60' of water according to Fred Austin of **Augies Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon**. Fluke fishing in the bay and inlet is holding up very well with most of the fish taken being keepers and a good number of 3 & 4 pound fish showing up in the catches. Crabbing in the area has shown daily improvement and snappers are around but not in any great quantities as yet. Fred fished aboard Tom and Judy's Sharp Shooter on Friday. Traveling to the edge of the canyon the trio released a white marlin, landed 5 long fin albacore and dropped a big eye at the boat. Aboard Victor Jensen's Blue Water an overnight Canyon trip produced a 90 pound swordfish, 4 big eyes and a load of true albacore. Dick Orlandi had 2 marlin aboard his 3 Sons on Sunday as did John Hall aboard his Shearwater. This action was in 150' of water SE of F.I. Inlet.

The **Lindenhurst** charter boat **Fishfinder** skippered by Capt. Lenny while brother Bill handled the mating chores, fished a party from City Banks Corporate Accounting Dept. on Saturday. Bill Tsigakos, Frank Bivona, Joe Raiti and Walt Zydel filled two boxes with 5-12 pound blues trolling umbrella rigs and plugs 7 miles SW of the Inlet.



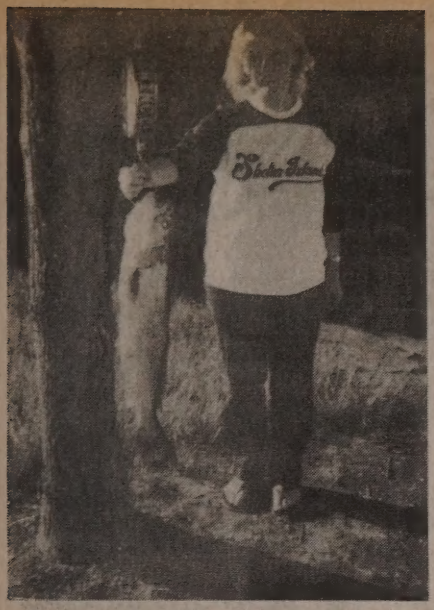
More than a dozen nice fluke to 3½ lbs. for Dan Mahoney. All were taken on sand eel/squid combos inside Moriches Bay. Dan fished out of Skidmore's Fishing Station in E. Moriches.

John Lipkus checked in 10 fluke to 4 pounds and 30 small blues at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** on Friday. Mike who reported this catch said that the best fluke action has been at buoy 7 and inside the bar south of the O.B.I. He also knew that bottom fishermen had been taking bot porgies and sea bass in the vicinity of the Lighthouse on clams, worms and squid. Crabbing is good locally and snappers are keeping youngsters busy at the town dock. Frank Turitto won the first segment of the Shop's month long snapper contest which will continue in to September.

From **Capt. Jack's West** in **Amity Harbor**, Bob Rose reported that 8 year old Joe Borowski took his first shark aboard the Lizzy J over the weekend. It was a dusky of approx. 50 pounds. Sharks, marlin and tuna kept offshore boatmen on their toes SE in 130-160' of water. Blues from 1-3 pounds in F.I. Inlet on jigs and umbrella rigs and good fluking in the inlet and between the bridge and the Lighthouse. Plenty of snappers and crabs at Tanner Park.

SOUTH OYSTER BAY

The word from most **Seaford** area fishing stations and tackle dealers was that a nice mixed bag of fish prevail although fluke continue to hold most of the interest. Art Wright at **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** in Seaford called the fluking steady in Great Island Channel and on both sides of the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh bridges. Small blues, sea bass, snappers, porgies, crabs and flounder all seem to be finding their way into buckets as of late. Flounder fishing



Lynn Morrisey alongside her first weakfish. The 7.9 tide-runner took a combo bait meant for a fluke near the R.M. bridge in F.I. Inlet. Subscriber photo.

continues to be worthwhile in front of the Jones Beach piers and at Squaw Island.

Lon Wanser of **Wanser's Tackle Shop** reported that fluke fishing is holding up with the 2nd bridge and Squaw Island being the best bet. The Mass. Cove area has a nice mixed bag of crabs, porgies, snappers, flounder and lots of sea bass on worms or squid Some big weakfish being taken on live snappers and sandworms near the bridges and small blues being trolled regularly at the inlet mornings and evenings on umbrella rigs.

John Dombrowski of **Pop's Fishing Station** in **Seaford** recommended the West side of the 2nd and 3rd bridges on the Ebb and between the bridges on the flood for the best fluke action. Last Wednesday Carl Dinkel, Willie Kinney and Roman Palec took 17 keepers up to 4 pounds working Black Bank with killies. On Saturday, John Hempel, John Hoenigman and Ed Sullivan combined to take 25 keepers up to 2½ pounds on killie and squid combos. The trio are all members of the Catalta Ave. Fishing Club in Ridgewood. A mixture of blacks, sea bass, small blues and porgies near the 2nd bridge for sinker bouncers not intent on fluke. Crabbing has improved considerably with one boat on Sunday returning with over 50 blueclaws from the flats bordering Amity Channel.

Dennis Newman and Buddy Holmes did it again in the bass dept. with fish of 23, 24 and 26 pounds taken on live bunker in the back bay. Jimmy Boulukos of **Nick's Marina and Fishing Station** in **Merrick**, who looked over the fish said that the pair also put away weakfish up to 13 pounds during the course of the week on the same bunker baits. Of the fluking, Jimmy said that Friday and

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Saturday were good while Sunday was a tough pick primarily due to heavy boat traffic. Small porgies, some sea bass and snapper blues are all showing up in the buckets of fluke fishermen. Robert Abatemarco of the Nick's Point Tuna Club Boat Lorrie D journeyed to the wreck of the Yankee on Saturday and returned with a load of cod in the high teens to low 20 pound class. Another club boat, Joe Dymant's Pelican traveled to the NOAA Buoy where Harry Weinblatt whipped a 75 pound yellowfin tuna.

Western South Shore Report

by Stu Miller

WEST END BAYS & INLETS

We hear from Sheepshead Bay angler Joel Dickerman that on Aug. 5 he, his father and brother sailed a half day trip on Freeport's **Capt. Andy.** This was the LIF subscriber's first boat fishing jaunt and don't you know he hoisted 2 fluke, 1 of them weighing in at 3 lbs., grabbing the $42 pool. Atta boy, Joel.

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** passes the word that different size fish are being caught in different areas on different days, proving that variety is the spice of life. Catches are from the Jones Beach tower to the Scotland Buoy and fish are running anywhere from 1 to 12 lbs., with a few weaks to 8 lbs. mixed in. Saturday night's bluefish trip saw a good steady pick going all night long on 8-12 lbers. at 17 Fathoms.

The **Capt. Al** told of good bluefish action all week long from buoy 4 to Ambrose Tower, a very solid catch was made Monday and the skipper said Wed. was fantastic off the Rockaways with catches of weaks up to 12 lbs. and blues from 3-6 lbs. Friday's catch was fantastic said the skipper with white water bluefishing from Seabright to Long Branch and a scattering of big weaks. All this day fishing is on jigs. Thurday saw frantic action for two hours just outside Jones Inlet on fish that chased bait in toward the shore line. Sunday's fishing was fast on blues and weaks at Ambrose while Saturday was a repeat of a steady pick from Jones to Ambrose with good shots of fish caught all the way down the line.

Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** told of brisk fluke and blue fishing most days all week. Blues are averaging 4-8 fish a man, fish up to 6 lbs. on Ava 27s. Action is SW to west of the inlet and an occasional weakfish

are mixed in. Fluke have been caught along the beach and in Jones Inlet and on some days the catches have been sizeable. Spearing and strip baits have been working very well and fluke high hooks have been 8-10 fish. Tom Molinary of Bayport took a 3½ lb fluke. Jim Franco, Ozone Park had a 6 lb. blue. Wednesday's offshore wreck trip for 14 people had an astounding score of 87 cod and a few pollack. Lots of cow cod . Ed Geyer, Massapequa boated a 52 lb. pool fish. High hook was Dan Viafore, Amityville with 12 cod. The pollack ran 30-35 lbs. Total weight was 1500 lbs. Anyone interested in a shirt sleeve cod trip should call BLUE FIN CHARTER SERVICE. See ad for details.

Captain Joe of the charter boat **Suzanne** called to say Thurs. trip for Mr. Yamamoto and friends from Hitachi were into action for a good part of the day with dusky sharks, all of which were released. Saturday's trip for Howie Katz and neighbors, Syosset filled the fish box with blues up to 8 lbs. Fish were scattered and the score was made on trolled umbrellas. Sunday's trip for Joe Prinzivalli, Manhasset utilizing green machines collared long fin tuna and a 190 lb. bigeye, all at the Texas tower. Joe says the area is swarming with sea life, with best catches made in the early morning and late afternoon hours. A lot of fish out there including a lot of marlin.

From the **Miss Freeport II** we discover that fluke trips through Thursday have been very good, with Thursday being exceptionall good with a high hook of 17 keepers. Sol Zigman took the pool Saturday with a 6 lb. fluke. Night bluefishing trips have been good on the boat thru Thursday night and then bounced back again on Sunday night These night blues have been going up to 10 lbs. on chum and bait. Catches have been made less than 1 hour from the inlet.

Good fluking was had on the **Capt. Andy** On. thru Fri. overall, with fish of good size. Pools have been goint 3½-4 lbs. Friday afternoon's pool fluke hit 5½ lbs. for Bobby, a regular. The morning tides have been better this past week. Small blues on the weekend at the channels in 40' of water, in quantities on jigs.

Capt. Paul of the **Aloma II** put his fares into good fluking Mon. thru Wed. fishing both inside and off the beaches. Action was off Thurs. thru Sun. The boat's night bluefishing trips have been hot and cold.

We hard from **Kaysea Marine** that on Saturday Peter Serro had a 600 plus lb. tiger shark on the Che'miss. The fish took 1 hr 45 min. to land and was taken 15 miles SE of the HA. The fish fell for a fresh dead bunker and the folks on the boat Mimi assisted by getting this fish up on their gin pole and into the boat.

Skipper Bill Venezia of the charter boat **Ivory Queen** had a dynamite week offshore fishing at the Texas Tower area. It started Wed. for Ed

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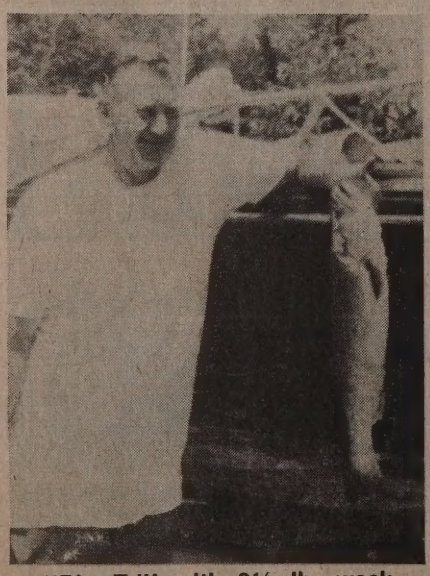

"Big Ed" with 9¼ lb. weak taken at Ocean Beach on a jelly/sandworm combo. Subscriber photo.

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Alice Betencourt made her biggest fish ever one to remember by winning the pool on a charter for the Polecats Fishing Club. The 5½ lber. was taken in West Channel.

Schuh of Freeport with 2 yellowfin tuna weighing 65 and 105 lbs. and 4 longfin albies all on plastic. Friday's trip for Mark Erret and group scored with a 60 lb. yellowfin tuna and 5 longfin albacore. Saturday's trip for Al Caruso of Flushing and the boys from CBS TV boated 6 longfin albies, 2 white marlin in the 60 lb. class and a 79 lb. blue marlin. Both whites were released after photos. Jim Swift of NJ had the blue marlin. Sunday's trip for Citibank at JFk had a 160 lb. bigeye tuna. On the rod was Vince Amarn Jr., Astoria. Mike Murray decked a 145 lb. bigeye.

From charter boat **Lady J III** we hear of Tuesday's trip for American Anglers having good bluefishing from buoy 4 to Ambrose on diamonds for blues to 6 lbs. Wednesday, Al Basis, Garden City and group had weaks to 9 lbs. fishing the channels and also had very good bluefishing off the Highlands on jigs. The Xeros group on Friday picked blues to 8 lb. on jigs fishing east of Jones,.. Friday nights trip for Smitty's Fishing Club, Richmond Hill, also enjoyed good bluefishing up to 12 lb. fish on bait and chum at Cholera. On Saturday Jim Murphy, Cornwall, NY and party had good blues at Ambrose on jigs, fish to 6 lbs. On Saturday night Black Rock Fishing Club had blues to 12 lbs. on bait at Cholera while Sunday Mike Mitarotonda picked blues to 5 lbs. on jigs west of Jones.

Ronnie (:Bunzie) Bauer at **Hudson Point Fishing Station** reports fishing offshore has been great this week.

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The Misty fished the canyon taking 15 longfin albacore and breaking off numerous big eyes. A white marlin was landed and 3 were released taken on very slowly trolled balao. On Ray Scanline's Taboo, a 166 lb. bigeye was caught at the canyon. Fluking has been good this week in the back and in the inlet. Crabs are increasing in the bay. Good floundering still exists off the Short Beach CG Station. There's also good weakfishing on live snapper and live bunker. Lots of ½ to 1 lb. blues in the bay from the Meadowbrook to the inlet on small tins and bucktails. Be advised that coming up very soon will be the Hudson Anglers/Tournament Anglers 2nd Annual L.I. Tuna Tourament. It will be run out of Hudson Point Fishing Station on Sept. 25. Call Ronnie at the station for info or application blanks.

Capt. Lou Fleet had very good fluking this week. Ray Smith of Woodhaven started it off with a 9 lb. pool grabber. This was followed Thursday by 37 keeper fluke including the 5 lb. pool fish taken by Marilyn Osias and Frank Herskowitz, Oceanside. Things slowed for the weekend however. The fleet's half day boat had super catches on the morning trips which fell in with a productive tide. High hooks have steadily been in the 10 and 11 range. 70 percent keeper ratio now prevailing. Pool fish averaging 5 lbs. Skipper's special late afternoon flounder trips have been 'triple super.'' According to Capt. Mike Gross who is runnin these trips, Mike has found the main vein of flounder. Plainview angler Young Kim hoisted 67 good flatties while Peter Mackaroet of Levittown had 42 good flounder Thurs. On Friday, John Markowski, Fresh Meadows had 48 flounder. John Derosa, Valley Stream, had a total catch of 118 flounder Friday and Saturday. Fish are running 1-2¼ lbs. with catches running 15-25 fish a man. Please note that all tickets are sold for the Aug. 20 full day trip. The boat's late afternoon flounder trip will sail as scheduled at 4:30.

Freeport Boatmen's Associatopn reports their day bluefishing boats have seen improved catches this week as have the night boats. There are big schools roaming from Jones tower to Gilgo and monsters at 17 Fathoms night. Lots of 8-12 lber. around. The six man boats that are trolling are getting excellent bluefish catches. Fishermen and Christy Lee had yellowfin tuna from 100-150 lbs. and long fin tuna from 30-40 lbs. fishing between the Tower and the canyon on plastic. There was also a 250 lb. bigeye taken. Aboard the **Super Spray II** the night blues have picked up steadily this past week and the day fluking remains good with the morning tides best. This coming week the best tides will be in the afternoon.

Aboard the charter boat **Capt, Gary** Friday nights trip for Horticultural Creations, NYC had a slow pick on 4 lb. blues. they also had 2 dusky shark.

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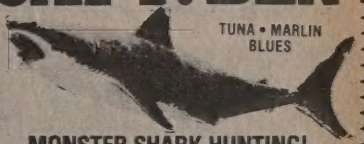
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Saturday's trip for Steve Serino and pals saw 30 keeper fluke taken in the inlet and Reynolds channel on spearing and squid. Slow bluefishing was had sunday for the Kevin Gerard group.

Over in **Baldwin** Jack at **Arthur St. Fishing Station** told us lots of fluke were brought in this week, mostly from the mouth of Scow Creek, Reynolds at the golf course and the mouth of Garretts Lead. There was a two thirds keeper ratio with some 2-3 lbers. mixed in. Flounders still being caught in decent numbers on worms at the CG station, while small sea bass and porgies are being taken mainly at the bridges. Try jelly worms or live bunker in the morning or evening for weakfish at the Meadowbrook bridge and Swift Creek. Blue claw crabs by the ton at low tide with lights and scoop nets in Middle Bay. Jack weighed in a 12½ lb. blue taken at Cholera. Down in **Pt. Lookout,** Capt. Ron Murray of the **Miss Point Lookout** advised that early in the week some very good fluke catches were made but later in the week things got tough with Saturday being the toughest, but Sunday improving greatly. Marge Kopel, Great Neck, bagged a 7 lb. pool fluke. The fish are close in to the beach from the mushrooms west to the 1st jetty. Thursday night saw a slaughter on the bluefish taken on bait and chum. The other nights of the week saw the bluefishing range from poor to very good.

Over in **Island Park** Capt. Clem of the **Commodore** tells of fair fluking thru Friday but the weekend of course was off a little. The boat has been fishing both the bay and outside, depending on conditions and fish availability. The pool fish outside have been running 5-6 lbs., inside 1½-3 lbs. Debs Inlet has also been fairly productive. The top of the flood was the choice stage of the tide this

past week.

Beckman's Tackle in **Lynbrook** passes on the word that Rosedale angler Lynn Ann Timper on Hustler fishing Saturday morning in Jones Inlet caught an 11 lb. 2 oz. weak along with a 6 lber. and a lot of small blues. This was all on red Nordic eels. Snappers have been very good at Bay Park and all the creeks off Reynolds Channel. The Jones Beach piers have been holding a lot of good size flounder which are still eating worms. Fluking has been a little spotty while blue claw crabs have been a pretty good item in Bay Park.

Over in **Atlantic Beach** Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the guide Boat **Kim** called to say that weaks and blues are still very good though now you have to fish Loran numbers and ranges, that it's not just a matter now of working under birds. Lots of weaks in Jamaica Bay on live bait and chunk bait with night efforts getting more fish. Good catches of bonito mixed in. More fish are now being caught trolling than jigging.

The word from **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** is that the best fluking now in Reynolds is just east and west of the AB bridge on live killies. Tin Can has been producing fluke also on squid, spearing and sand eels. Good blackfishing now at the AB bridge, fish 1-1½ lbs. Blues just a mile out of Debs on trolled umbrellas and Ava 27s. Weaks seemed have to thinned out at the Can. Paul Stern on Mirage fishing the Texas Tower boated a 150 and 175 lb. bigeye tuna. These fish were being weighed in when we called on Monday morning.

OVer in **Long Beach, Long Beach Sports Marina** told of very good fluking through the week with Ed. Rheinfleisch hoisting an 8½ lb. and 7½ lb. specimen fishing buoys 1 and 3 and buoy 9 Debs. Live killies working best. It was a 6 and a 6 ½ lber. for Jim Gentilesco while Pat Caneri boated fluke of 5 and 6 lbs. Dave Keeney scored wth a 6 lber. Fluke and weaks still solid at Tin Can. Small stripers east and west sides of the local bridges for bucktailers and clam chummers. Some tinker mackerel mixed wiht the snappers at Reynold.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Skippy's Bait and Tackle tells of how and cold fluking in Reynolds and Skip feels the fish are starting to bunch up. and may be moving out soon. Best spots this past week have been Hog Channel and duck Point. Snappers and crabs have been a good item all around the channel. Blues have been small and apotty at the Tin Can but there have been some nice catches of weaks there in the dark. Hot tuna and white marlin catches have been made this week offshore. Stripers in the teens and 20s have been hitting bait off the Rockaway jetties at night. Flounder have been good the holes around the bridges and the CG station and Jones Beach piers. Small Rebels have been taking schoolie bass in the back. Lots of action going on.

To the west in Jamaica Bay , **J-Bay Boat Rental**reports a little less activity on blues in the bay this week although they are still being caught on just about everything. Try following the bunker schools and casting Hopkins or Kastmasters, small variety. Stripers in the 19 to 20 inch range being taken along the grassy shores of the airport on bucktails or June Bug spinners, all with bloodworm trailers. Fluke picking up in numbers with just a few throw backs now on killie - squid combos. Silver Hole is the spot. Porgies all over the place on worms. Blue claws widely scattered in various areas. Larger snappers now on spearing and small killies

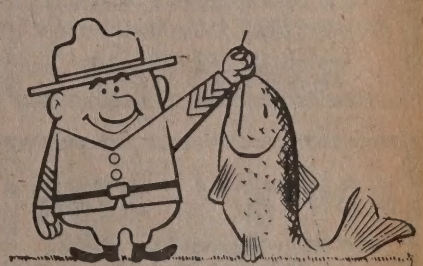
Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** tells us that off both north and sout channel bridge porgies are hitting on sand worms, snappers being caught on spearing. Small blues being taken during the day on bunker chunks and larger blues at night. Fluking has fallen off somewhat but the remaining fish are good sized. Crabs and flounders on their seasonal upswing. Bob Hagel bagged an 8½ lb. weak off The Rockaway jetty on a Nordic eel and Pat Sassano scored with a 36 lb. blue shark which he took inside Jamaica bay on live bunker and 20 lb. test line.

To the west in **Sheepshead Bay,** the **Elsie K II** described an improving fluke picture on the black side of the tin can with a lot of 3-4 lb fish being caught. Larry Trinka was high hook with 18 keepers including a lot of 2-5 lbers. The boat is holding its annual fluke derby at present. See ad for details.

Pilot II reports excellent porgy fishing off the Rockaways fish running 1/4 to 2½ lbs. Lots of blackfish mixed in averaging 2-3 lbs. with fish up to 10. Fares have been having sensational weakfishi catches on the late afternoon trips with fish averaging 8-10 lbs. on Bait tail and Red Nordic eels. Blues mixed in. Action is between the channels, close to home. A sensational week said Capt Tom, with great quantities of fish.

Charter boat **Avatar** had a party of 4 from Queens out. They had 40 weaks, a few bonito and assorted blues on bait tails.FRiday a trip for 2 Queens residents racked up 25 weaks plus a few bonito and blues.

Over the chop in **Staten Island** the best bet this past week has been weaks to 11 lbs. and blues from 12 -14 lbs. along the Stapleton piers, with piers 8 and 12 most productive. Kevin says anything that's yellow and swims or bumps along will catch and that AM hours are best. Plenty of porgies and some blowfish in the same area. Give Great Kills harbor a try also for



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North Shore Report

by Marty Garrell

WESTERN SOUND

Large blues were beginning to fall to bunker chunkers while small blues offered action to party boat fans. Enough porgies and fluke were around to make life interesting.

John Palmieri weighed a 16¾ lb. blue at **John's** in **New Rochelle.** The fish took a chunk fished by Richard Bonelli from his boat Time — Tide. Robert and Ken Ciardullo showed up with bass of 11½ and 12 lbs., taken from the shore. Small blues to 2 lbs. are abundant and the bottom between Sands Point and Matinecock area is worth the trip for fluke.

There are blues and a few weaks around Steppingstone Light according to **Jack's** in **City Island.** Those who troll tubes as well as bait fishermen have been scoring. Dave DiLuca jigged some 60 blues from 5-8 lbs. off Hempstead Harbor. The **North Star** from **City Island** has been finding porgies and Dom Cerbone of the **Apache** gave details on some of his own catches. Saturday was good with 15-20 fish per fare while Sunday fell off. The larger fish can be found on reefs from Lloyds to Smithtown and a few weaks, fluke and blackfish mix with the catch.

Dave Watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** felt that snappers were the best bet, especially with 1 to 3 lb. blues under the little fellows. Spotty bluefishing is worth the trouble, because some of the slammers on the Sound go 12 lbs. Worm trollers are pulling 3 to 8 bass per boat per night with most fish 4 to 8 lbs.

Joe Fink enjoyed a banner day with the **Lady Lil III** out of Glen Cove on Sunday. Fink made the one hour run to Stamford waters and had 1½ hours of torrid action after 3 p.m. AVA 27s and 47s accounted for a boatload of 3 to 12 lb. fish with a lot of 7 lb. blues. Fink found the bluefish schools on the ridges in 35' to 100' of water.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Blues remain the chief attraction, but fluke fishing and porgy action continue to please the bottom fishermen.

George Valentine at **4 Winds** said that bigger blues to 7 lbs. could be fished at the Obstruction Buoy and that wire and umbrellas accounted for similar action plus some weaks in the Sunken Meadow area. Bunker chunkers had some blues to 10 lbs.

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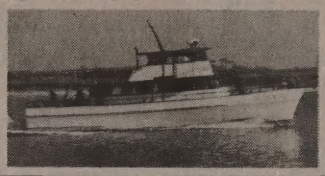

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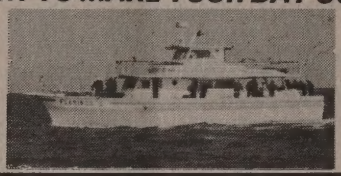

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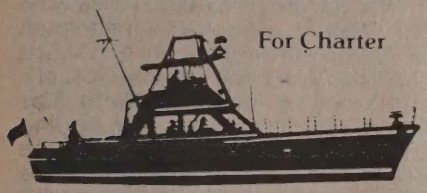

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Darrin Stapert of Valley Stream and the 140 lb. tarpon he kept for mounting while on a June trip to the Florida Keys. Subscriber photo.

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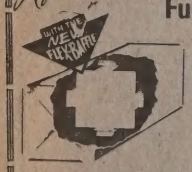

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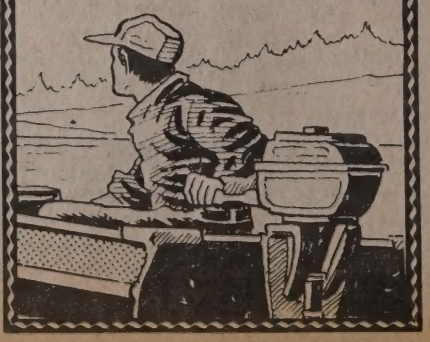

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from Cold Spring Harbor. The Cedars at **Huntington Prop** mentioned some bass were mixed with the blues at the OB for those who wire line trolled. **Ronnie's** figured that these bass run to 12 lbs. and can best be picked on white bucktails and white pork rind. Although no big fluke have been weighed recently, there are plenty of summer flatfish around. Porgy fishing produces mostly fish in the 1/2 to 1½ lb. class, but there are still some jumbos to be caught.

Bowman's in Northport suggests trying a chumpot off Makamha in 40-45' of water for porgy angling and feels that a run to Crane's Neck for 5-7 lb. blues is worth the trouble. Snappers to 7" are plentiful in the harbors, while the baby blues on the Sound may run 12" now.

Billy Collins told us that the **Ever Ready** was fishing 1 to 4 lb. blues with high hooks running 30-40 per day and up to 20 per night. Evening trips are shorter, of course. The first drifts of the day could produce bass and weaks to 8 lbs. plus blues to 6. Tiger striped jigs in 2 oz. size are preferred.

The **Caraftis Fishing Station** in Port Jefferson was looking at up to 18 keeper fluke per boat with most fish under 3½ lbs. One 10 lb. freak was weighed, however. Best action was off the White Beach Cabanas. Small blues can be found off Buoy 9, Mount Misery, and there are some large porgies along the buoy lines. The Fishers feel that nights are somewhat more productive on the **Aqua-Gem** with plenty of 1 to 3 lb. blues nearby. A few bonito mix with the catches. Buoy 9 and Buoy 7 are the recent target zones.

Dick Bro at **Dick's** in Mount Sinai felt that outgoing was best for local fluke with killies and squid worth the effort as bait. Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's** has weighed fluke to 6½ lbs., and he likes Cedar Beach as well as the Pink House. Patient porgy anglers find the rockpile off Mount Sinai worth chumming and waiting. There are a lot of small blues in the Mount Sinai.

NORTH FORK

Summer porgy fishing is still fairly good while fluke angling continues to shine. Large blues are making an appearance well to the East.

Ed Kopack at **Warren's** said that there were plenty of small bluefish "all the way from Throngs Neck to Orient," and that the Goldsmiths-Hortons area was a good example. White or green tubes and diamond jigs are the standard lures. The **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** is still reporting good fluke numbers with the majority of the fish ranging from near keepers to 18". Hand-sized porgies and fish over 3/4 lbs. can be found off Coopers Rock as well as the Motel.

Joe Sapienza of Kings Park with the 47 lb. striper he beached along the Cold Spring Harbor causeway on a 5½" RedFin. The big cow was weighed at Ronnie's Bait and Tackle in Huntington.

Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's** saw some good porgy catches in the Peconic hot spots over the weekend. Buoy 25, the North Race, Roses, and The Black Buoy were all productive for those who hunted the fish and used a chum pot. A porgy catch on Saturday included 6 summer weaks to 3 lbs. and one Sunday moring sample showed blowfish mixed with 40 porgies.

The **Port of Egypt** reported an upswing in porgy action off South Ferry, Buoy 16, Smiths Cove, and Mashomack Point. Some fluke were reported off between Paradise Point and Cedar Beach with a few weakfish off Buoy 11.

The Orient Station of the Port of Egypt sampled porgies, flounder and fluke, with flounder already showing off Long Beach in Gardiners Bay.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in Greenport saw private boat catches up to Gary Oates' 100 porgies. He says that the open boat totals have been up and down recently. The biggest fluke off Gardiners last week was a 6¾ lb. fish registered by the **Blue Albatross.** Sunday's fluking was slow, according to Anna Rainis, but Art Christopher had a big day on porgies on Saturday.

Richie Jensen said that the **Nancy Ann** had been pulling anywhere from 70-150 fluke per day in the Gardiners zone but that the fish were usually bare keepers. Jensen did find one pod of fish between 3 and 5 lbs. for a couple of days, however. He's fishing a lot of blues now in

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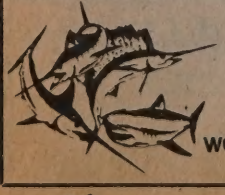

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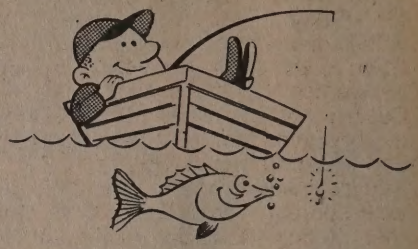

Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

Very small bluefish continue to dominate the surf scene on both the north and south shore while out at Montauk, that fine run of weaks along Gin Beach seems to have abated with casters returning to the south side to find action with some blues and weaks. Bass news continues to be almost non-existent although at least one pair of Striper Surf Club members continue to pick away at some nice fish along western south shore beaches after dark. More on this later.

Staten Island surfmen must still contend with lots of small bluefish at Great Kills Park although casters fishing bunker chunks from the jetties on incoming water are taking some nice weakfish. Kevin Koncelik of **Santo's Sport Shop** on the Island said that those looking for big blues and weakfish are advised to work the Stapleton piers for an hour or two around dawn with any yellow swimming plug as this action carried on right through this week from last week. The only reports evolving from the Rockaways and Atlantic Beach concern rumors of a few bass being taken on rigged eels or bunker chunks from the rock piles.

One stretch of Western South Shore Beach continues to produce for Striper Surf Club members Jack Driscoll and Bill Rothwell. The duo clicked with stripers of 17.11, 18.12, 25.6 and 29.12 pounds. All were taken Saturday night after dark on bait. John Christianson who handels the publicity for the club added that most members have been contenting themselves with small blues.

Small bluefish dominate the action at West End, Jones Beach, Democrat Point and the Sore Thumb. Weakfish occasionally mix with the blues with smmall tins and 007 jigs accounting for the best scores. Casters fishing sand worms after dark at Democrat have the edge in the weakfish dept.

Shinnecock inlet is also inundated with small bluefish. L.I.F. Employee Danny Connor worked the jetty on the inlet's east side Saturday morning and put away 15 1-2 pound blues on small hopkins and small diamond jigs.

Out in **Montauk**, Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Tackle Shop** said that while action on the north side petered down to just a scant few fish, the sout h side came to life during the week. Casters working the sand beaches got in a few good innings with small blues and weakfish from 6-8 pounds on tins. Tuesday was probably the best day with sporadic flurries of action since then. Along the rocky reaches of the south side, surfmen encountered some big blues in the 10-13 pound class along with a few weakfish. John also knew of one 25 pound bass taken by an unnamed caster. All of this activity was after dark on swimming plugs.

Moving up to the north shore, there was very little in the way of positive surf news. Small blues along with a sprinkling of a few weaks according to Ronnie Ferraro of **Ronnie's Tackle Shop** in **Huntington**. Crab Meadow Beach has seen most of the action although Lilco still seems well supplied with small bluefish. Very little word on activity to the west of here other than rumblings of few short bass and an occasional weakfish at Lloyd's Point.

To the east, Stan Henschal of **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** said that little blues from 1-3 pounds roam up and down local beaches with a rare nice fish mixed in. Stan did weigh a 7½ pound weakfish for Ed Carlson on Saturday. It was taken at Shoreham. Out on the North Fork the only word we received was of a few small bass in the Wading River area late last week.

Keith Forrest gets some support from his sons Matthew and Jonathan while displaying the 38 lb. pool winning cod he decked aboard the "Indian II" while vacationing in Maine.

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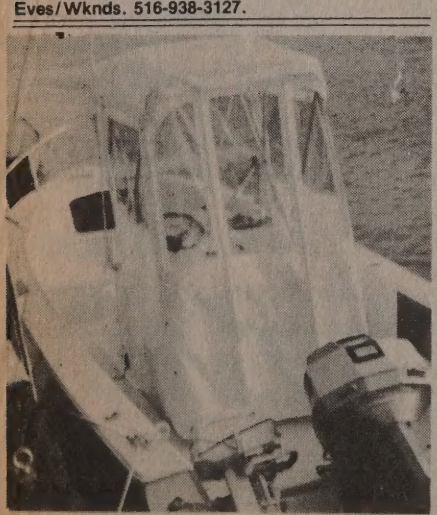

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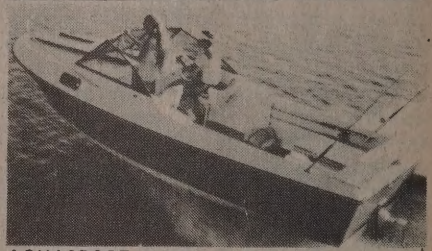

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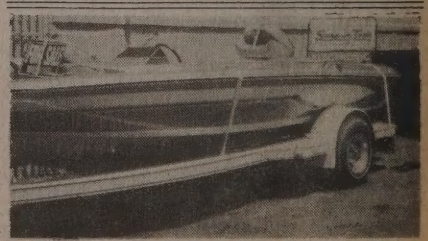

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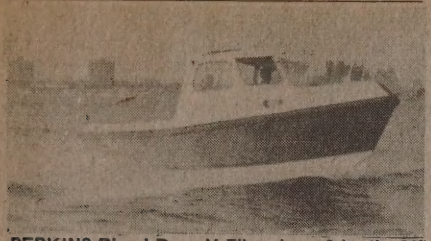

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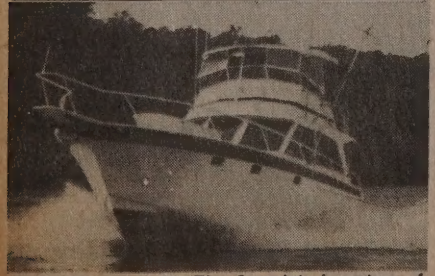

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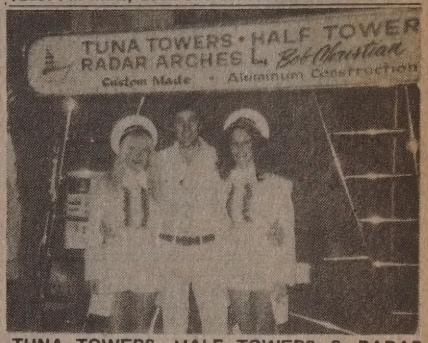

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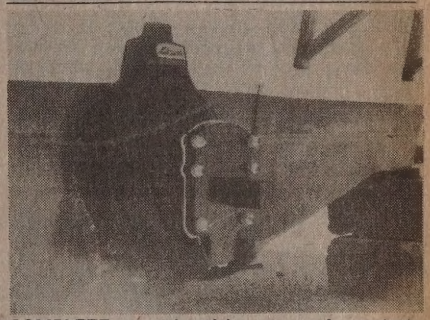

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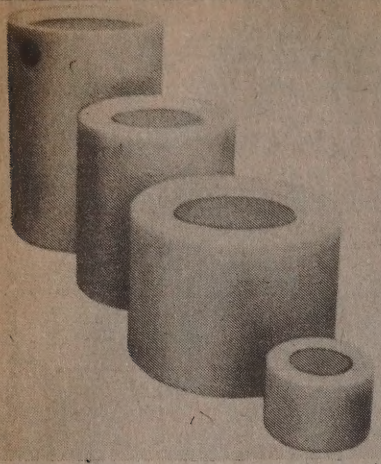

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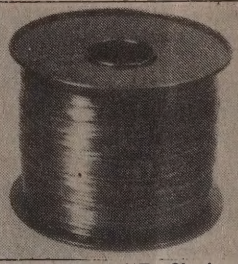

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FISH COOKBOOK. Over 130 fish recipes for your local catch. Lies flat for easy reading. Also appetizers & veggies to serve with your fish. Send $6.95 to: PISCES ENTERPRISES, Box 23, Bay Head, NJ 08742.

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Successful charter boat, 35 pass. cap.; fully equipped & business for sale. Excl. South Shore location. Replies to: P.O. Box 3587, New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11042.

Atlantic Chartering Service, 26' Carver, 1-4 passenger. Fully equip. Reasonable rates. For information & reservations, contact Captain Paul, 516-488-5507.

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MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE: 1975 Honda CB360T, elec. start, crash bar, sissy bar. Blue; very economical. Very low mileage. Mint cond.; w/helmet. $900. 516-868-2391 or 516-223-6135.

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REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE: Small, busy fishing station; boats, motors, all accessories. Bait & tackle store, large beautiful workshop & 2-family home. All in excl. cond. South Shore. Nassau. For address & appt. to view, please write to: P.O. Box 441, Merrick, New York 11566.

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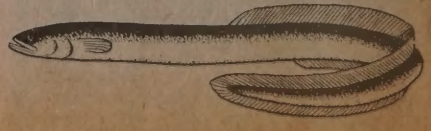

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High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet...–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	8:45	9:00	9:25	9:50	9:20	9:40	10:10	10:30	12:00	12:35	–	12:05	8:30	8:55	8/19
FRI.	9:30	9:45	10:15	10:40	10:10	10:30	11:00	11:20	12:50	1:20	12:25	12:55	9:20	9:40	8/20
SAT.	10:20	10:35	11:05	11:25	11:05	11:20	11:50	–	1:40	2:10	1:15	1:45	10:10	10:30	8/21
SUN.	11:10	11:20	11:55	–	11:55	–	12:10	12:40	2:30	2:55	2:05	2:30	10:55	11:15	8/22
MON.	11:55	–	12:15	12:45	12:10	12:45	1:00	1:30	3:20	3:45	2:55	3:20	11:45	–	8/23
TUE.	12:10	12:40	1:05	1:35	12:55	1:30	1:55	2:25	4:15	4:40	3:45	4:10	12:05	12:35	8/24
WED.	12:55	1:30	1:55	2:25	1:50	2:20	2:50	3:20	5:15	5:40	4:40	5:00	12:55	1:25	8/25
THUR.	1:45	2:20	2:50	3:25	2:35	3:10	3:50	4:20	6:20	6:40	5:35	6:00	1:45	2:25	8/26

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

8/20	6:13	7:53
8/21	6:14	7:51
8/22	6:15	7:50
8/23	6:16	7:48
8/24	6:17	7:47
8/25	6:18	7:46
8/26	6:19	7:44

Moonrise/Moonset

8/20	7:42AM	9:07PM
8/21	8:52AM	9:36PM
8/22	9:59AM	10:04PM
8/23	11:03AM	10:32PM
8/24	12:06PM	11:01PM
8/25	1:08PM	11:32PM
8/26	2:07PM	–

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr	FULL	2nd Qtr.
8/19	8/26	8/4	8/12

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	5:50	11:55	6:10	—
Fri.	6:40	12:25	7:05	12:55
Sat.	7:35	1:25	8:10	1:55
Sun.	8:30	2:20	9:00	2:45
Mon.	9:20	3:10	9:50	3:35
Tues.	10:10	4:00	10:30	4:15
Wed.	10:45	4:35	11:25	5:10
Thurs.	11:50	5:40	—	6:05

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...ENDS SATURDAY AT 6 p.m.

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- DAIWA D-1300 reg. 27.99.....18.99
- DAIWA D-1600 reg. 29.99.....18.99
- DAIWA D-2600 reg. 34.99.....19.99
- DAIWA D-4000 reg. 41.99.....28.99
- DAIWA D-7000 reg. 47.99.....32.99

SAVE ON DAIWA BLACK GOLD SERIES REELS

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- BG60..... reg. 67.99.....47.59
- BG90..... reg. 69.99.....48.99

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- Eppinger • Rapala • Alou
- Hopkin • Mann's • Tri-Fin

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